

Hoodlums butcher keke rider in Ebonyi

From **Wilson Okereke,**
Afikpo

A tricycle operator, Mr. Okechukwu Nkwuda, 45, was reportedly stabbed in various parts of his body by yet-to-be identified assassins on January 23, 2023, along Nwezenyi/Ndukabi Road, in Izzi LGA of Ebonyi State. And the man died.

Narrating the incident, the grieving brother, an indigene of Onu Nwakpu village in Igbeagu autonomous community of the same council area, Mr. Martin Nkwuda, said that the deceased left home for his lawful business on the fateful day without a premonition of any misfortune, until later in the evening when he was accosted by the miscreants who stabbed him to death with a dagger on his way back home.

He added that, after he received the unpleasant news, he went and reported the matter at the divisional police headquarters, Iboko, the following morning and police operatives, led by the divi-



• **Olaleye**

sional police officer, Dr. Livinus Nwenyim, went to the scene of the incident and took the man's lifeless body to the morgue.

"In the morning of the particular day, my brother left for work hale and hearty but, surprisingly, in the night of the same day, I got the information that he had been

gruesomely murdered by some miscreants and, immediately, I became devastated but I was able to control myself till the following morning that I went to the station and reported the matter," he said.

Another stakeholder who pleaded anonymity, disclosed that the villagers, in their quest to bring permanent peace in the area, had of recent arrested some persons suspected to be the brains behind the series of attacks bedevilling the community and handed them over to police for interrogation and prosecution.

It was learnt that one Bassey, an indigene of Nguji village of Igbeagu community, and others who had been arrested in connection with the dastardly act, are cooling their heels at the State CID where the case has been transferred.

However, police public relations officer in the state, Onome On-ovwkpoyeya, a superintendent of police, said she was yet to receive any report on the said incident, because she had just assumed the office.