

Abia: Outrage as man kills sister, twin babies

23rd February 2025



• Buries dismembered bodies in shallow grave

From **Okey Sampson**, Umuahia

A young man said to be in his mid 20s has thrown the people of Umuokogbuo- Ndagbo community, in Afara clan of Umuahia North Local Government Area of Abia State into mourning as he, on Wednesday, killed his elder sister together with her twin babies – a boy and a girl.

The young man whose name was given as James, suspected to be mentally deranged, allegedly murdered his older sister and her twin babies in cold blood without anybody in the village aware of the incident.

It was gathered that after killing his sister and her babies, James dismembered the bodies of the twins, put them in a polythene bag, and covered the top of the bag with refuse, before taking them out from the house.

A source said those who saw him from afar with the polythene bag, thought he was going to dispose of it, not knowing he was carrying dismembered bodies of his sister and later buried them in a shallow grave at a corner of their compound in the cover of the night.

The source said after some hours and having felt he had successfully disposed of the bodies of the babies, the assailant decided to dispose of the body of his elder sister which he was said to have put in a big container.

As James was reported to be dragging the container along, a young man who was said to have come out to urinate in the night, saw the assailant and as he was trying to find out what he was carrying. James was said to have abandoned the container and fled.

When the man reportedly opened the container, he saw James' elder sister's body inside and had to alert other villagers.

With the discovery, the villagers were said to have alerted security agents, who combed the compound and discovered where the dismembered bodies of the twins were buried.

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According to our source, “the bodies of the twin babies who were butchered by their supposed uncle and buried in a shallow grave near their compound, were eventually exhumed with the help of the men of the Nigeria Police, Department of State Services (DSS) officers alongside the youths of the community.

Meanwhile, the assailant was said to have run to his maternal home in Imo State, where he falsely told them he was forced out of his home by his relatives.

Having erroneously believed James, his maternal people reportedly brought him to Afara only to behold the crime he had committed.

“Actually, he ran to his maternal home in Imo State and told them that his family sent him away. So, they decided to take him down to the village, probably to intervene on his behalf.

Investigations by Sunday Sun revealed that before James killed his sister and her twin babies, he had allegedly attempted to kill their father on three occasions.

Each time he attempted doing that, it was gathered the slain elder sister had always intervened to save the old man at the displeasure of James.

The assailant’s grouse with the father according to a source from the village was that the young man claimed his father sold his (James’) portion of land in the village.

He is said to be presently cooling his feet in the police custody.