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Community lynches 4 suspected robbers, rapist

From Goddy Osuji Abakaliki

Monday, May 16, 2011

Four suspected armed robbers were over the weekend lynched by angry mob at Nwekendiagu community, Effium in Ohaukwu Local Government Area of Ebonyi State for allegedly raping at least five females and robbing people of over N1 million.

Daily Sun gathered that the hoodlums had over five months been terrorizing the people such that the residents preferred sleeping outside their homes and with relations outside the community.

Besides, the various atrocities committed by the hoodlums including rape, cases of motorcycle theft and snatching of mobile phones by the hoodlums, Daily Sun further gathered were intimidating the villagers and forcing them to even buy drinks for them for their consumption

A source revealed that as a result of the atrocities by the hoodlums the community was said to be under siege as security of lives and property were threatened to the extent that some members of the community had started relocating to neighbouring communities

When Daily Sun visited the community, a source disclosed that the community, in order to checkmate the security situation, consulted security operatives which led to the arrest of one of them during an attack and it was his confessional statement, that led to the arrest of three others.

Some victims on condition of anonymity, cried foul over the activities of the robbers in the community, saying the incidence escalated shortly after the 2011 general election in the area. According to them: "What the robbers have done in this community was very despicable and for over some months now they have been terrorizing us. They have been robbing us from one house to another every day and before they come, they will first alert you by writing to you two days before their coming. Every night people don't sleep in their homes because each night they will be shooting sporadically on the air and it has made over seventy percent of the community to abandon their homes and sleep in the bush.

"To tell you the fact, these criminals have committed atrocities. The worst is that if they come to your house and you give them money, whether big or small they will first beat you up and after force you to hold a touch light for them and rape your wife at gun point." "I thank God so much that when they came to my place, though they robbed me of my phone and money but they didn't rape my wife," he said.

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