



two occasions."

He continued, "Apart from constituting nuisance, their presence on the streets of Agbor and its environs have since posed serious threat to our corporate existence. Their presence recently assumed a dangerous dimension when they started expressing their madness in action and words on lives and properties."

Corroborating him, a commercial driver at the Uromi Junction, who simply identified himself as Friday, said most of them were dropped along the road after they have been used for money rituals by desperate politicians and other money-bags, who he said, "needed human parts, virgins or girls of easy virtues, to perfect some rites of initiation into one cult group or the other."

He narrated how one Asaba lady, who he referred to as Philomena, was milked to death by a ritualist sugar-daddy about a decade ago. According to him, the sugar-daddy used her for occult rituals during sexual intercourse but when he could not stand to see her running mad along the streets of the state capital, pleaded with the native doctor - the man that prepared the charm, to make her fall sick in a mysterious circumstance until she died.

He explained that most of the mad persons, especially women, who are on the streets of the state were put in their present condition because of their waywardness, infidelity to their matrimonial vows, repercussion of oath taken and doing of mystical persons.

A herbalist in Agbor, who does not want his names in the print, attributed some of the causes of madness to misuse of charms, magical powers and desperation in unraveling some metaphysical powers.

According to him, the efficacy of charms that have been prepared for