



I watched warlords kill my father, brother, abduct my sister -Nwaelem

April 2, 2017 Uchenna Inya



•We arrested suspects with human heads and ingredients to cook them'

Thirty-two-year-old Chibueze Nwaelem of Ofereke Azuofia- Enyigba, Abakaliki Local Government Area of Ebonyi State cannot hurriedly forget the way his 65-year-old father, Nwaelem Ijebe, and his brother, Innocent Nwaelem, were shot dead in a crisis that broke out between his community and neighbouring Enyibichiri-Alike, Ikwo Local Government Area of the state. He also cannot easily forget how his sister, Odinaka, was abducted during the crisis.

His two houses and over 400 houses belonging to the people of his community were burnt during the crisis, which left three persons dead with two others still missing since March 19, 2017.

Over 2000 people of the area were displaced in the crisis but Nwaelem appears to be worst hit by the calamity. Indigenes of the area whose homes were destroyed have relocated from the community.

Some of them are squatting with relatives in other communities. Nwelem recalled that he saw the assailants numbering about 20 kill his father, Nwelem Ijebe and his elder brother, Innocent, while they abducted his sister, Odinaka.

"I was returning from the farm when I saw a lot of people inside my compound and when my brother wanted to escape; they shot him on the head. "I hid and beheld them molesting my father whom they later shot as he was shouting for help and afterwards abducted my sister. I alerted fellow indigenes who mobilized, retrieved my brother's corpse and handed it over to the police.

"The police also took the picture of my father's corpse and instructed that we bury him as it was needless keeping the corpse because of the way the bullets had shattered his head," he said.

Categories

Select Category ▾

How I TOTALLY Got Rid Of my excess Fat, Pot Belly and Overweight in just 2weeks.
Click [HERE](#) for Details.

Tweets by @NewTelegraph1



Embed

View on Twitter

Nwaelem, who appealed for the release of his abducted sister whether dead or alive, called on the state government, public spirited individuals and NGOs to come to his aid as his two houses including his newly constructed yam barns, economic trees and other properties have been burnt.

Another victim, Uguru Celestine of Uwalake Enyigba, told our correspondent that Innocent Nwaelem, who was killed during the attack was married to his sister, Njideka Uguru, and that the woman was delivered of a baby two weeks ago and has not been informed of the murder of her husband.

"We have lost all our properties and many people have been displaced. Five villages in this Enyigba community were completely set ablaze.

"Government should come to our aid; they should rescind their decision not to compensate victims of the crisis," he pleaded.

He described the people of Oferekpe Enyigba and Enyibichiri Alike as friends who have never had problem before as to be the cause of the crisis except the crisis of 1992 between the two communities and expressed shock on the attack on Oferekpe Enyigba by the Enyibichiri Alike. Another indigene, Celestine Uguru, said that the assailants launched the attack on the five villages of the community around 12pm on March 19, killing and destroying buildings, farm crops and farm lands.

"Innocent Nwelem, whom the assailants murdered, is my younger sister's husband and she just delivered a baby some weeks ago. We have not told her of her husband's death due to the devastating implications and which is the lot of hundreds of indigenes of our community affected by the conflict," he said.

He noted that the devastating effect was heightened in the community by the news of the release of the suspects arrested by the army in connection with the attack.

"We are surprised to hear that assailants, who wrecked havoc in a community and were arrested with arms and other dangerous weapons, could be released without reason," he added.

A member of the community's kingship cabinet, Chief Sunday Nwideogu, told Sunday Telegraph that the army personnel stationed in the area informed the natives that the suspects had been released to the government whom they were only answerable to.

Our correspondent subsequently accompanied some stakeholders of the community to the army base in Azuofida, Enyigba, where the Assistant Commander, who did not disclose his identity, briefed the entourage.

"We did not release the suspects but are holding them in custody in an area I will not disclose alongside 24 suspects arrested from Ogurude Community of Obubra LGA of Cross River. "This community is engaged in a conflict with the Azuoffia-Edda community in Abakaliki Local Government Area of Ebonyi State and we arrested them with six human heads.

"The son to the seventh person about to be beheaded informed us of the development and we stormed the scene, rescued his father and arrested the suspects with the human heads.

"The interesting issue is that the suspects were arrested with cans of salt, oil and pepper possibly to cook the human heads, as the boy told us that the severed victims were all indigenes of Azuoffia-Edda," he said.

When contacted, the state Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Jude Madu, said he was not officially aware of the arrest of some suspects but that officers of the command were in control of the security situation in the war areas.

He, however, confirmed the killing of three persons in the Azuofia-Oferekpe Enyigba and Enyibichiri-Alike crisis. Madu disclosed that two persons abducted in the crisis were still missing. The PPRO said the casualties of the crisis were increasing as only one death was recorded when the crisis occurred.



New Telegraph
 175,288 likes




16 friends like this
 



New Telegraph
 45 mins

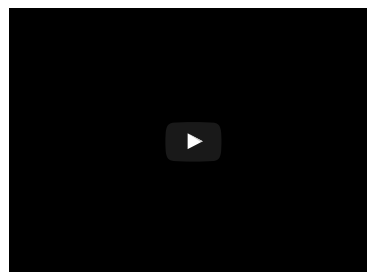
New post (Xenophobia: African envoys slam India over attacks on Nigerian students) has been published on New Telegraph Newspapers




Xenophobia: African e...
 Sanctity of Truth
 NEWTELEGRAPHONLINE.COM











Recent Posts

- 

Xenophobia: African envoys slam India over attacks on Nigerian students
 April 3, 2017
- 

Somali pirates hijack Indian commercial ship
 April 3, 2017
- 

Court vacates interim order of forfeiture on Ozekhome's account
 April 3, 2017
- 

Malabu Oil deal: FG seeks arrest of Adoke
 April 3, 2017
- 

Mourinho may sideline league if Man United fail to improve
 April 3, 2017

CIV's former first lady acquitted of war crimes

By Online Editor

Meanwhile, Governor Dave Umahi has inaugurated an 11-man committee to resolve the intra-communal crisis. Inaugurating the committee at Government House, Abakaliki, Umahi, who had visited Oferepke Enyigba with security chiefs to ascertain the level of damage, warned that he might set up a commission of inquiry if the two communities failed to apologize and pledge to sheathe their swords.

While he encouraged the chairmen of Abakaliki and Ikwo local government areas to set up different committees at the local levels, he enjoined the 11- man committee to be thorough and honest in its duty.

"I will advise the chairmen of Abakaliki LGA to have an enlarged committee under the local government chairman. He has to organise a local committee of people of that particular community and the other chairman should do the same," he said.

Turning to the Chairman of the committee, Chief Francis Orji, the governor added: "You are like the judge taking records while they are talking because you will be inviting them to come and discuss before you. You have to be very careful in making sure you dispense with the truth so that our people will live."

Umahi disclosed that out of the four persons abducted, one person was found dead while one was freed. He consequently appealed to the warring communities to bring back the remaining two persons alive.

"I want to thank Ikwo people because one of the abducted people has been seen, one is dead but I appeal that the rest of the other two or thereabout should be returned alive," he said. Umahi told the committee that part of its terms of reference was to make a proposal on permanent demarcation of the disputed land to restore peace in the area. "You're to review the 23-man committee report.

You're to trace the history of the land and initiate amicable settlement that will be acceptable by both parties. Then you're to propose a draft bill that will be sent to the House of Assembly so it becomes a law," he said.

176 total views, 12 views today

Share this:



Sunday Extra, Sunday Magazine I watched warlords kill my father

« South-West support for Buhari unshaken – Tinubu

Bundesliga: Lewandowski fuelling Bayern charge »

Related posts



April 2, 2017

Correspondents 0

Yakubu Dogara: It's impossible to eliminate corruption

In recent months, the National Assembly has been plagued by a chain of controversies as the...



April 2, 2017 Okegwo

Kenechukwu 0

Onitsha: A city fighting against dirt

The usual saying that cleanliness is next to godliness is one dictum that cannot be overemphasized...



April 2, 2017 Steve Uzoechi

0

Anglican Retreat Centre dedicated as bishop tasks pensioners on age falsification

The Anglican Retreat Centre built with deductions from pensioners' funds from the four Anglican provinces of...



Ekpo aims at world boxing title in Germany

By Correspondent



Again, PDP's peace accord breaks down

By Geoffrey Ekenna and Onyekachi Eze



FRIENDLI ES: Eagles lament UK visa hitches

By Ajibade Olusesan



El Rufai wants police indigene s posted out of

Southern Kaduna

By Ibraheem Musa