



HOME ▾

NEWS ▾

BUSINESS ▾

POLITICS

SPORTS

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENTS ▾

OPINIONS ▾

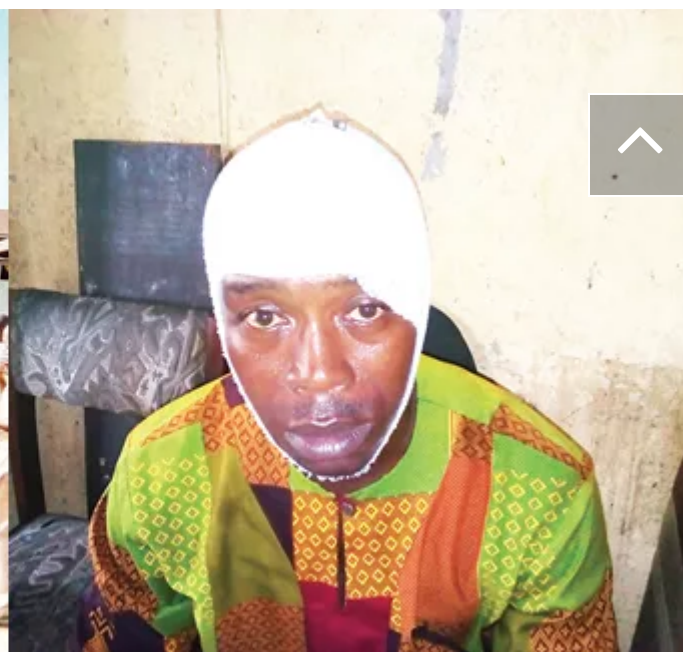
SAT

METRO AND CRIME

Biafra Day: Five killed, about 500



Published 9 hours ago on May 23, 2018

By **Steve Uzoechi, Emmanuel Masha, Uchenna Inya, Kenneth Ofoma, Emmanuel Ifeanyi and Okegwo Kenechi**

At least five people were feared killed yesterday while the police arrested more than 500 members of the Movement for the Actualisation of Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSO) and the Biafra Independent Movement (BIM) in the South-East and South-South regions. Several others were injured in clashes with police during rallies in support of planned declaration of Biafra Republic and hoisting of the Biafran flag.



HOME ▾

NEWS ▾

BUSINESS ▾

POLITICS

SPORTS

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENTS ▾

OPINIONS ▾

SAI

State during the 18th anniversary of the “independence of the New Biafra” by the me MASSOB. The Director of MASSOB Information, Mazi Chris Mocha, said in a state me the celebration was in continuation of the desire of the group to achieve a sovereign Biafra.

 Ads by Google

[Breaking News](#)
[Election](#)
[Facebook News](#)
[Football](#)

He said: “While we were gathered at the Onitsha-Oweri Road, by Obosi junction, a jo military task force, including the Army, Navy, Police, Nigeria Security and Civil Defer (NSCDC) in over 45 Hilux vehicles shot five of our members dead. “About 206 membe arrested.



The arrested members included Chief Christian Ifejika, Declan Okafor, Gloria Umejes Oforbike, Fidelis Oduenyi, and 173 others.” Mocha said that four persons – Chief Vin Ebuka Emmanuel, Innocent Okolie and Mrs Virginia Ubazuonu – received machete c their heads from the Joint Task Force (JTF) members in their desperate attempt to di crowd. When contacted, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), SP Haruna Mohammed, said he was not aware of any arrest or killing. In Imo State, about 84 me Chief Ralph Uwazuruike-led MASSOB and BIM were arrested by the police in Owerri.

New York → Lagos

from ₦ 277,999

[Search more](#)

*Prices subject to availability

According to the Owerri Zonal Leader of MASSOB/BIM, Mr. Samuel Njoku, some men the group were arrested while conducting a press briefing at the old Timber market (C

[HOME ▾](#)[NEWS ▾](#)[BUSINESS ▾](#)[POLITICS](#)[SPORTS](#)[ARTS & ENTERTAINMENTS ▾](#)[OPINIONS ▾](#)[SAI](#)[i Ads by Google](#)[Football](#)[Football Game Online](#)[Front Page](#)[Latest News](#)

On the reason for their rally, Njoku explained that “since the end of the Civil War in 1 Igbo was courageous enough to mention Biafra until Chief Uwazuruike launched MA September 13, 1999 and on May 22, 2000 declared and hoisted the flag for the new Bi

According to him, the uniqueness of May 22 anchored on its historic importance mak day a big event for the struggle for the emancipation of Biafran people.

[i Ads by Google](#)[Football Game Online](#)[Manchester United](#)

The state PPRO, Andrew Enwerem, said arrested members of BIM/MASSOB were sep who were nabbed by security operatives of the command from various parts of the st said the arrests were based on intelligence information that MASSOB/BIM members about to conduct themselves in a manner likely to cause breach of the peace. As early 7:30a.m., security men were stationed at various entry points of Owerri, to stop MAS members from joining the rally while others were also stationed at various local gove areas.

Despite the heavy security presence, the demonstrators were able to arrive in buses f nearby council areas of the state with Biafra flags and placards bearing various inscri



At least 10 members of MASSOB and BIM were arrested in Port Harcourt, Rivers State. Hundreds of Biafra supporters outside Rivers had stormed Port Harcourt to mark the starting a procession at Mile Market and were heading towards Eleme Junction before they were intercepted around Garrison Junction by security operatives.

The security men thereafter released tear gas into the air and arrested 10 of the protesters, mostly those wearing military and NSCDC camouflage. Those that were arrested, according to some of the Biafra supporters, were subsequently taken to the Olu-Obasanjo Police Station in Port Harcourt. Meanwhile, the state PPRO, DSP Nnamdi Omoni, said he was not aware of the arrest. The leader of MASSOB in the state, Solomon Chukwu, lamented that the arrest was unnecessary, noting that they only embarked on a procession and did not engage in any violent behaviour.

Police, soldiers and other security agents arrested scores of members for MASSOB and Abakaliki in Ebonyi State. Security agencies in the state accosted them on Nkaliki Road when they started the peaceful march, fired tear gas at them and arrested some of them. Army, Department of State Security (DSS) and the police carried out the joint operation. Commandant of the Nigerian Military Cantonment in Nkwegu, Col. S. O. Sadiq, confirmed the participation of the Army in the arrest of the Biafra agitators.



HOME ▾

NEWS ▾

BUSINESS ▾

POLITICS

SPORTS

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENTS ▾

OPINIONS ▾

SAI

He said all the arrested persons were handed over to the police. Sadiq said that MASS not notify security agencies in the state of the event in writing which he said necessitated arrest. The state PPRO, Loveth Odah, confirmed the incident but could not give the a number of persons arrested.

“I don’t have the details of the actual number of persons arrested right now, when I get details I will let you know,” she said. Ebonyi Central MASSOB/BIM leader, Gideon Ilo. “Today, we are celebrating Biafra Independence.



Scholars examine the facts about Jesus' claims to be God

Ad Discover the Evidence From Scholars About Jesus' Claims to be God

Y-Jesus

[Learn more](#)

We are happy that the world authorities have recognised Biafra as an independent state that is why throughout the federation, South-South and South-East are celebrating Biafra independence. We also agreed that all the states under Biafra must gather to celebrate the greatness of Biafra because we are grateful for what God has done to us.”

In Aba, Abia State, the police arrested 115 members of MASSOB. The Zonal Leader of the group, for Abia South, Mr. Fredrick Onyenucheya, disclosed that the police, aside arresting members of his group, injured many others.



HOME ▾

NEWS ▾

BUSINESS ▾

POLITICS

SPORTS

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENTS ▾

OPINIONS ▾

SAI

Natural way to fertility

Ad wellnesskit



Lagos Blockchain Summit - Win 500 Euro in a raffle draw

Ad docs.google.com

I was never friends Play now with Moji Olaiya – Aremu Afolayan

newtelegraphonline.com



Okorocha's son-in-law can't be Imo gov –Archbishop

newtelegraphonline.com

Ad secondlife.com



N5.5m fraud: Dogara jailed 10 years

newtelegraphonline.com

AISHAT ABIMBOLA: Being a graduate cost...

newtelegraphonline.com



2019: OBASANJO, ATIKU IN FIGHT TO THE FINISH

newtelegraphonline.com

Onyenucheya, flanked by Chief Obi Anyaogu (leader Abia Central) and Pastor Evans Okoronkwo (Abia North MASSOB/BIM leader), claimed that they were holding peace to mark this year's anniversary at Umuorieoma on the Osisima axis of the Enugu-Aba-Harcourt Expressway when policemen in over 20 Hilux vans arrived the location.



He said that the group members numbering over 200 gathered at Umuorieoma junction at 9a.m. and were peacefully dancing and marching towards No 175, Faulks to hoist the flag which will mark the 18th anniversary re-restoration of sovereign state of Biafra in 2000." The Abia State Commissioner of Police, Anthony Ogbizi, confirmed the arrest of members of MASSOB and BIM in Aba. Ogbizi said those arrested included men and women and were being held in detention in Aba.

[HOME ▾](#)[NEWS ▾](#)[BUSINESS ▾](#)[POLITICS](#)[SPORTS](#)[ARTS & ENTERTAINMENTS ▾](#)[OPINIONS ▾](#)[SAT](#)

They will advise us before we know what else to do.” Also, police in Enugu arrested undisclosed number of members of MASSOB and BIM for allegedly breaching public order. The state PPRO, SP Ebere Amaraizu, who confirmed the arrest in a statement, advised residents to go about their lawful businesses.

Amaraizu said the state Commissioner of Police, Danmalla Mohammed, had “warned against any act or omission by any individual or group of persons under any guise capable of disrupting the existing peace in the state.” Meanwhile, the Imo State correspondent of Punch newspaper, Emeka Ihiegbulem, was brutally assaulted by policemen for attending a press briefing by the MASSOB.

While the policemen dealt him blows, soldiers and personnel of the NSCDC also showed up around. Ihiegbulem was in the midst of the MASSOB members, trying to clarify an issue when policemen, who were later followed by soldiers, stormed the area; cordoned off the area and forced everyone including journalists to sit on the ground.

[HOME ▾](#)[NEWS ▾](#)[BUSINESS ▾](#)[POLITICS](#)[SPORTS](#)[ARTS & ENTERTAINMENTS ▾](#)[OPINIONS ▾](#)[SAT](#)

They ignored my explanations, arrested me alongside the MASSOB members and made me get all into a lorry to the police headquarters.” Ihiegbulam’s beating started when a soldier and a policeman tried to force him to hang a Biafran flag round his neck to give the impression that he was arrested with the flag.



The man firmly refused while brandishing his identity card and work tools. His refusal infuriated the policemen; while one snatched his identity card, recorder and jotter from him, another slapped him from the back of his head. He was trying to see who slapped him when a heavy wooden club landed on his head. At the state Police Command Headquarters, Ihiegbulam was forced to sit on the ground. But Commander, MOPOL 18, who identified Ihiegbulam among the ‘suspects,’ ordered him out of the ground.