



Sunny (in black shorts) being held by his weeping friend in front of Aba CPS gate

## Uproar in Aba as Bakassi Boys kill alleged cultist

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ABA

There was confusion in Aba, Abia State yesterday as young men numbering over 100 on tricycles protested the killing of their col-

league, identified simply as Sunny.

The protesters stormed Aba Area Command Headquarters of the Nigeria Police with the body of Sunny.

New Telegraph learnt that Sunny was shot on the thigh on Sunday by some men of the Abia State Vigilante Group aka Bakassi, at the crime-prone Uratta Road where he was collecting "loading" money from tricycle operators.

A source said that trouble started when some Bakassi boys went to stop some notorious boys who were alleged to be members of the dreaded Aro Cult from defecating indiscriminately and smoking Indian hemp on farms and drainage system along Uratta by Port Harcourt Road.

The source said that the indiscriminate defecation in the area had become a norm, but had been causing problem which necessitated the Bakassi boys, who were brought to the area due to the criminal activities of the Aro Cult boys, to end it.

The issue, however, got out of hand when one of the boys, who was arrested from the scene of indiscriminate defecation, stabbed a Bakassi boy with his knife, leaving him unconscious before escaping. This prompted a hot chase and combing of the area in search of the Aro Cult members by the Bakassi Boys.

It was learnt that while combing the area in search of the Aro Cult boys, the Bakassi boys ran into Sunny at his duty post where he was identified as a member of the group which stabbed their colleague.

During ensuing altercation, Sunny was shot in the thigh.

According to the source, Sunny was taken to an unidentified hospital same day by his family members where bullets were extracted from his thigh. He, however, died yesterday morning.

Sunny's death caused pandemonium around Uratta axis as group of boys who were identified as his friends, colleagues and members of same gang went after the Bakassi Boys with different weapons.

They chased the Bakassi boys away from their office around the Obuda Community Hall by Railway and set their patrol van ablaze.

The boys also took Sunny's body to the gate of the Aba Area Command and later dropped it at the Aba Central Police Station (CPS) gate where they were chanting angry songs. This prompted the police to respond with tears gas and gunshots to disperse them.

Sunny's body later driven away in a police van to an unknown destination as security was beefed at the Aba Area Command and CPS gate, which resulted in restriction of vehicular movement.

When contacted, the Area Commander in charge of Aba, ACP Peter Okpara, said he got information of the incident while he went to the Police Headquarters in Umuahia.

Okpara promised to interact with Bakassi to know what actually happened.

He said: "I have been in Umuahia since morning and I was told it was Bakassi that shot him. So, we will engage Bakassi people and know what happened."

## Francis killed by police



Francis

directed a policewoman to follow us to the mortuary, yet nothing was achieved. When we realised that our brother's corpse may be lost in the process, we gave the mortician N10,000 for Francis' body to be removed from mass burial container.

"All our efforts to get justice with petition written to the police authorities, Lagos Commissioner of Police, Assistant Inspector General of Police Zone 2, Area F Command, Ikeja, did not elicit a favourable response from them.

"As I speak with you now, our father is bedridden with stroke and our aged mother is also sick. We are appealing to the Inspector General of Police, Muhammad Adamu, the Senate President, Ahmed Lawal, the Speaker, House Representatives, Femi Gbajabiamila, and Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu of Lagos State to come to our aid because we want to give our brother a befitting burial."

## venue, Plateau, Taraba

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"During the period under review, that is between January and now, we embarked on intensive investigation which has led to the arrest of 48 suspects; 13 of these suspects are being prosecuted, and we have secured the conviction of three others."

Babalola said the activities of the internet fraudsters "are capable of eroding the credibility of Nigeria and Nigerians".

He added that it was causing problems for the integrity of the country's businessmen abroad.

The EFCC zonal head highlighted the need for the commission to strengthen collaboration with the FBI and Interpol to rid the country of economic and financial crimes since "the world has become a global village."