

# SouthEast

**GEOFFREY EKENNA**  
COORDINATOR  
goekenna@yahoo.co.uk  
08068774740

The million Dollar question is begging for answers. The question has remained on the lips of their family members, friends, well-wishers, colleagues and admirers as **UCHENNA INYA** reports from Abakaliki

## Who killed citizens Samuel Ogali, Nwogha Boniface?



Nwogha lying lifeless

**M**r. Samuel Ogali, a Department of State Security Service (DSS) Officer attached to Ebonyi State command of the secret service was killed by unknown gunmen in Onwe road, Abakaliki, the Ebonyi State capital.

He is a native of Opaleka village, Ezzama community in Ezza South Local Government Area of the state and was murdered in the evening of Sunday, November 24 by hoodlums.

The hoodlums fled after the nefarious act and have not been arrested till today. The deceased had gone out with his new motorcycle at about 7pm of that day when the miscreants killed him.

It was the wife of a prominent politician in the state residing at Onwe road that saw lifeless body of the Ogali close to their gate as she was going out for early morning jogging. She immediately informed the husband, who alerted the police at Kpirikpiri Police Division, leading to investigations into his killing.

But it does appear that the investigation is not yielding any result as Ogali's killers have not been known till today.

Even the state Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Loveth Odah, who confirmed the killing of the DSS officer to New Telegraph, admitted that the killers of the young man have remained unknown when she said: "You will recall that sometime before the end of last month, there was someone in Onwe road, Abakaliki, who was later identified as DSS officer because an ID card was found on him. He was found in a pool of his blood. At the end of the day, the DPO took him to hospital where he was confirmed dead and till today, the killers have remained unknown."

She therefore called on the public to make available any information that could assist the police to bring the perpetrators to book.

"The DPO of the area, that is B Division, told me that a woman (name withheld) came out the following day, that is Monday while she was going for early morning jog and suddenly saw the officer's lifeless body close to their gate and ran back.

"Consequently, she reported to her husband, who went to the Kpirikpiri Police Station and made a report. The DPO immediately went to the scene and rushed the body to Alex Ekwueme Federal University Teaching Hospital (AEFUTHA) where he

was certified dead by the doctor on duty.

"So, in search of his identity, the DPO said they searched his pocket and saw a mobile phone and an identity card showing that he is DSS officer. So, it is now confirmed that he is DSS personnel. He has gunshot at his back and a deep cut also which looked like that inflicted with an axe. So, we are strongly suspecting that it is cult related activity. B Division have transferred the case to the state Criminal Investigation Department, CID and we have begun investigation.

"We are using this opportunity to inform the public that anyone who has information that will aid in the investigation and possible arrest of the gunmen should please not hesitate to do so. Remember, it is the constitutional right of the public to assist the Police to police well. So, for now, the command is on manhunt for the perpetrators.

"We are not aware of any whether new or old motorcycle he allegedly went out with that day before his death. Things we recovered from him are his mobile phone and DSS identity card which are now registered with us", Odah said.

Ogali's death has continued to receive reactions from people, particularly his friends.

One of them, Chidi Godwin Ali, described his killing as callous and painful. Ali said he can't believe that such a young man could be killed in his prime age.

"What a wicked world? It is still like a dream; I can't believe it's true. So painful that you are no more. May your soul rest in peace my friend and brother Officer Sam", he said.

On his part, Joshua Nwafor said: "This is unbelievable even after I went to mortuary. I can't still believe it."

Another person, Omoke Joseph said: "It is a pity we lost him physically. Not what happened to a man before his death that matters but what happened to him after death. So, let us retrospect ourselves and know where

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Ogali when he was alive

we are getting it wrong and amend our ways for no one knows who will be the next. Rest in peace great Sam".

New Telegraph learnt that the deceased would be buried on 21st of this month. Ezzama community association living in Abakaliki, which included the immediate past Chief Judge of the state, Justice Alloy Nwankwo, had suspended their 2019 end of the year party following Ogali's death.

Two weeks after his killing, a 30-year-old man, Nwogha Nduibuisi, was murdered by gunmen suspected to be cultists.

Nwogha, a plumber, living with his family at Michael Nwogha Onuba Street Amike-Abia, Ebonyi Local Government Area of the state was killed at about 8pm of last Tuesday night.

The cultists were alleged to have stormed the plumber's compound, shooting sporadically, forcing everyone to scamper for safety.

A source from the state security outfit known as Neighborhood Security Watch (NSW) who did not want his name in print, said there was a

misunderstanding in the compound, which left someone with injury, leading to a reprisal in the night.

The source further said: "We got the information that there were gunshots in the area and we immediately rushed to the place. When we got there, everybody has ran for safety. We did not see anyone but we saw a body in a pool of blood. It was then we started knocking on doors of the residents of the compound. On introducing ourselves, people came out of their houses, including the wife of the deceased. We then called the Divisional Police Officer (DPO), who also came with his men to the scene. The incident was suspected to be cult attack according to the elder brother of the deceased."

But a resident of the area, who gave his name simply as Orok, alleged that there was a misunderstanding among two rival cult groups during the burial of one woman at Nnodo Secondary School, Ogbas road, Abakaliki.

He alleged that the deceased had inflicted machete injuries on son one during the squabble and escap from the burial venue.

"When he cut somebody with machete during the crisis, he ran away. Later, they traced him to his house and gunned him down. When they traced him, he was on his knees begging them not to take his life.

to do him whatever they like: spare his life. His elder brother, who was also with him when they traced him, also begged them but they were determined to kill him and they shot him on the chest and the head. Orok disclosed.

Since his killing, there have been massive arrest of people around the area. Police had mounted road block on the entrance and exit points to the area and arrested many persons the night especially those that owned motorcycles.

Those arrested were taken to

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