## Many feared dead as cultists resume killings in Sagamu

Olufemi Adediran ABEOKUTA

any people have been feared killed during a cult war in Sagamu, the headquarters of Sagamu Local Government Area of Ogun State.

New Telegraph learnt that the killings started on Saturday as members of the Eiye and Aiye confraternities resumed their usual supremacy battle.

In gory videos and photos shared online by residents, some of the victims of the attacks were seen lying in the pool of their blood, with one having his hands cut off by assailants.

The Police Public Relations Officer, Muyiwa Adejobi, has reacted to the cult killings in Sagamu.

Adejobi, on his X handle, said the situation in Sagamu goes beyond the deployment of anti-cultism squad only, saying all hands must be on deck.

"Sagamu's case goes beyond the mere anti cultism squad. The elders know how to handle them. The politicians know what to do I was in their midst in Sagamu between 2006 and 2008. But no single cult clash before I left in 2008. I worked then with the late Akarigbo, Oba Michael Sonariwo and others." he said.

The Force PRO added that, the Ogun State Commissioner of Police should look inward and take action on the report by some residents that



Cult symbol

the cultists are well known to security agents.

"I will engage the CP on this. Whoever is dealing with cultists and criminals must not compromise. That person must stand firm, and operate against all odds."

Adejobi spoke further that, "Most of those who cause this wahala (problem) in Sagamu are not even sagamites. At times, they come from Ijebu Ode or Ago Iwoye to strike and move. In some cases, they come as far as Edo State. It's a problem that the whole system must tackle, not only the security forces. It requires multi track diplomacy.

"We will discuss this with the CP and take the necessary steps. In sagamu, almost every young one is a cultist. Okada riders, artisans, etc. are into cultism, even more than students, and I think the whole town and Remoland in general should take action on it.

"I think the community should rise up to it. They should have an urgent meeting with the heads of all the quarters in Sagamu with the police and vigilance group to address this matter. Sagamites know and understand what I am saying here. I worked in Sagamu for almost 2 years."

## **ACP Kazeem heads po**

Taiwo Jimoh

he Lagos State Police Command has inaugurated a 13-man special investigation team to probe the death of singer, Ilerioluwa Aloba, popularly known as Mohbad.

Mohbad, a former signee of Marlian Records owned by Azeez Fashola, popularly known as Naira Marley, died last Tuesday at the age of 27.

The Police Public Relation Officer (PPRO), SP Benjamin Hundeyin, yesterday said the command decided to investigate Mohbad's death in the overriding public interest.

Hundeyin said the work of the team would include exhumation, scene visit, autopsy, medical report and statements of suspects and witnesses, adding that

## Gunmen kidnap Catholic priest, 6 others in Enugu

Gunmen suspected to be Fulani herdsmen have abducted a Catholic priest, Rev Father Marcellinus Okide, and six other motorists in separate locations across Enugu State.

Their abduction is coming barely 24 hours after a middle-aged man was killed and several others kidnapped in the state on Saturday.

Fr Okide, a Parish priest of St. Mary's Catholic church, Amofia-Agu Affa in Udi Local Government Area of Enugu State, was kidnapped on Sunday evening around 5:00 pm along Eke-Affa-Egede Road while returning to his Parish.

The Catholic Diocese of Enugu State has confirmed his abduction and called on Christians to pray for his safety.

The Diocesan Communication Director, Rev. Fr. Anthony Aneke, who confirmed his abduction in a statement, decried the upsurge in insecurity in the state, South East, and the entire country, appealing to both the security agencies and the government to live up to the calling and ensure the security of Nigerians at all times.

The statement read in part, "In a troubling incident, Rev. Fr. Marcellinus Obioma Okide, a Catholic priest, was abducted on September 17, 2023, at approximately 5:00 p.m. while traveling along the Eke-Egede-Affa Road in Nigeria. Fr. Okide, who serves at St. Mary Amofia-Agu Affa Parish, was en route to his parish when the unfortunate incident occurred.

"The diocese has issued a fervent appeal to the faithful and the public at large for prayers, hoping for the swift and safe release of Fr. Okide. Additionally, they are calling for a change of heart on the part of the kidnappers. This distressing event highlights the ongoing challenge of kidnappings in the region."