

Echezona Okafor,  
NNEWI

**A**wka, the capital city of Anambra State, has become a bleeding ground as three more persons have been shot dead at different places within the city.

This is coming after the Sunday evening shooting at Ifite Awka.

This time an unidentified man, believed to be from Kogi State and said to be a tricycle operator was reportedly killed.

# Cultism: Again, 3 killed in Awka

The Monday shooting happened in diverse places within Awka and according to sources, about three persons lost their lives in the incidents.

A journalist who pleaded not to be named, notified New Telegraph of the shooting around her area in Ukwuorji, saying the incident happened at about 5pm.

"The victim is a private security operative living around our area. He hails from Abagana and was living with his elder sister until his death today (Monday)."

Another source said there was also shooting at St. Faith Cathedral area, close to the popular Eke Awka Market and Amawbia area.

The source said: "That of Amaw-

bia saw the death of a young boy who makes and sells shawarma close to Eke Amawbia market.

"Eye witnesses said four bullets were pumped into his head, while residents scamped for safety.

The scene of the incident is a pole away from the State CID and the Police Command Headquarters in Anambra State, but the gunmen leisurely drove away without any challenge.

"People are wondering what kind of policing we are receiving in Anambra State. No matter what happens, so long as it is not on their facility, they just keep quiet."

Meanwhile, the state police command has maintained sealed lips in the face of the killings.

When *New Telegraph* reached out to the state police command on calls seeking reaction to the incidents, the state police command's spokesperson, SP Tochukwu Iken-ga did not pick nor return message.

There have been various incidences of killings in Awka, which have been attributed to cultism.

The member representing Awka 1 state constituency, Hon. Nigeria Henry Mbachu, had in the face of the challenge held a security summit in June, bringing together various stakeholders to seek way out of the killings, but has persisted.

Analysts say no week has passed in Awka without clashes, leading to killings in the state capital.

## Simon Ekpa daims responsibility for killing of 4 policemen in Imo

**G**unmen in one of the deadliest operations in South East killed four police personnel and a woman, a Point of Sale (PoS) machine operator, along the Onitsha-Owerri Expressway at about 6:30 p.m. on Monday in Owerri, Imo State.

However, reacting to the killing

his Biafra Defence Forces had killed the Police personnel in Owerri.

He also attached a video clip to the X post.

The clip showed four rifles and some police case files displayed by some persons who claimed to have attacked and killed the personnel.

The clip, however, did not show

to extort people," one person said in the Igbo language.

"These are Nigerian terrorists who were at their duty post despite our leader's sit-at-home order. But they felt they work for the government and would not obey the order."

"They have now seen it happen today in Owerri, which is July 29,