

Thursday 06 November, 2014 Updated 6:52

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- [HEALTH AND WELLBEING](#)
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- [Thisday-tv](#)

[Articles](#)

[HOME](#) > [NEWS](#)

Uniben Student Murdered, 10 Others Escape Death

06 Nov 2014

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Nigeria Police logo

By Adibe Emenyonu in Benin City

A student of University of Benin simply identified as James was on Tuesday night shot dead by unknown assailants.

The deceased, a 300 level student of Vocational and Technical Education, was said to have been killed at Ekosodin, a satellite community near the Ugbowo campus of the university.

This is coming less than two weeks after one Ejiroghene Gbenedio, a 300-level student of the Department of Chemistry in the faculty of Physical Sciences, was hacked to death with an axe at about 7 p.m. on October 24.

The corpse of James was sighted in a white-colour Police Hilux van at the Accident and Emergency Ward of the University of Benin Teaching Hospital, (UBTH) on Wednesday morning.

His white T-Shirt and lemon colour knickers were drenched with his blood and his head shattered and almost double in size, apparently because he was shot at a close range.

One of the students who preferred anonymity for security reasons confirmed the incident, saying James was on his way home at about 11 p.m. after watching a football match at one of the viewing centres in the community when he was accosted by his assailants and shot dead.

“It might not be unconnected with cult activities on the campus. But he was aware of what happens at Ekosodin at nights. I just don’t know why he decided to risk his life like that. What a pity,” the source said.

When contacted on phone, University of Benin Public Relations/Protocol Officer, Harrison Osarenren, promised to make an enquiry into the alleged murder and call back, but was unable to do that as at press time.

Meanwhile, no fewer than 10 university students travelling to Bayelsa State from Lagos and Ibadan were on Tuesday night involved in a multiple motor accident along Ore-Benin highway between Okada and Ogbemudia farm.

The accident involved an articulated truck and two commercial buses belonging to Onitsha-based Cross Country and Warri-based Agofure Motors.

The students who were going for orientation for the batch C of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC), in Bayelsa State were travelling in a 15-seater Cross Country bus.

It was gathered that the bus (Cross Country) was on high speed when it rammed into a moving articulated truck in front, while the bus directly behind it (Agofure Motors) also rammed into the Cross Country bus.

Six of the Corps members sustained serious injuries and were rushed to the UBTH where they are currently receiving medical attention.

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