

# Assassins kill lawyer in Asaba, one suspect arrested

By Austin Ogwuda

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**A**SABA—A three-man gang suspected to be hired assassins killed an Asaba-based legal practitioner while taking his wife out for a Valentine treat on Wednesday night.

Killed was an Asaba-born lawyer, Mr. Emmanuel Uche Okwuasaba, aged about 36 years.

He was allegedly shot on his chest at close range while driving out of his compound about 8pm on Valentine Day (Wednesday) and died shortly afterwards while his wife was equally shot at the thigh and has been hospitalized.

When VANGUARD visited his residence located at number 9 Uche Iwunor Street, Asaba yesterday afternoon some sympathizers were found thronging the place.

One of the inmates of the house a house help confirmed to our reporter that "oga and wife were going for Valentine when they were shot by this gate". Meanwhile, police said they have arrested a man in connection with the dastardly act and is currently being interrogated.

State police command's spokes person, Miss Olabisi Okuwobi who confirmed the arrest said that the victim of the attack was said to have earlier intimidated his wife that a certain man was after his life over undisclosed land issue.

The death shook members

of the Bar yesterday as his colleagues were found wearing sad faces at court premises discussing about it.

Commenting over the incident, Mr. Afam Nmah told *Vanguard* that "it is a very sad one. He is too vibrant to go", he lamented. \*

## Rivers' teachers threaten unpaid salary

By George Onah

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**P**ORT HARCOURT—PRIMARY school teachers in Rivers State are complaining over the non-payment of their January 2007 salaries.

Consequently, they have threatened to abandon their pupils and hit the streets with placards on a march to Government House, Port Harcourt.

Following the agitation, leader of the teachers in the state, Mr. Michael Enamu has appealed to the teachers not to carry out any form of protest. He said the state government was doing every-

thing possible to pay them their January salaries and other entitlements.

When *Vanguard* called at the state Ministry of Education, the commissioner was said to be attending to a "crucial meeting concerning the issue".

But the voice who did not want his name in print said "the teachers should remember that they have never been owed since the inception of this administration of nearly eight years".

However, group chairman" of the protesting teachers said they would no longer fold their arms and allow themselves to be "so used throughout the year, day in, day out and our common sal-