

Vanguard

Gunmen kill 36-year-old man in Rivers

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OZUOBA— gunmen suspected to be armed robbers, have killed a man of about 36 years at Ozuoba in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area of Rivers State.

The gunmen, whose number and mission were not ascertained at the time of this report yesterday, killed the victim, Mr. Anthony Wede, simply called Atochi, in his compound at Ozuoba and carted away a 32inch television set.

Vanguard gathered that the gunmen came to the house, located around Sympathy mortuary, in Ozuoba, at about 12am, and got access into the house of Wede and his family through the window.

A source around the place revealed that the criminals used an iron cutter to destroy the window protector after they had already pulled off a net covering the window and had easy access into the apartment.

The source alleged that when the gunmen entered the room their victim and other occupants of the house woke, adding that Wede tried to escape from his killers.

The source also alleged that the gunmen who he said were determined to take the life of Mr. Wede, followed him up and shot him as he was trying to jump a fence into another compound for safety.

Speaking to *Vanguard*, Mr. Chike Alekiri, the Community Development Committee, CDC, chairman of Ozuoba, narrated: “Around 12am I was called that Atochi was shot by armed robbers that came to his house and has been rushed to the hospital. When we got there, the doctor confirmed to us that he had died.

“We reported the issue to Ozuoba Police Station and they have also come to the place to carry out assessment of what happened in Atochi’s house, and they are also conducting an investigation.

“The man in question is a very simple and quiet man who does not involve in trouble. The act is a very painful one to the people of Ozuoba. We have not experienced anything of this kind in this community before. This particular one has left us in fear.”

At the moment, following the development, fear has gripped residence of the area, especially around the neighbourhood of the slain man.

When reached on phone, at press time, the Assistant Police Public Relations Officers in Rivers State police command, ASP Grace Iringe-Koko, said she had not been briefed on the issue, adding that the police would swing into full

investigation of the matter.

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