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## Youths protest release of suspects in killing of Delta 4

By Festus Ahon

ASABA—YOUTHS from Ase-Omuke and Otulu-Ogwashi-Uku communities in Ndokwa East and Aniocha South Local Government Areas, Delta State, yesterday, stormed Asaba, the state capital in protest against the alleged failure of police and state Commissioner for Justice to prosecute those behind the killing of four youths in the communities.

The placard-carrying protesters, numbering over 1,000, who besieged the State Government House, urged the police to revisit the case and bring those behind the dastardly

act to book.

Chairman and Secretary of Ase-Omuke Community Development Committee, Chief Okwudili Obi and Mr. Victor Ogbue, respectively, during the protest, said that the suspected killers of one Mr. Francis Obi, had been released.

He said: "True to the boasting of the suspects and their associates, the Attorney General and state Commissioner for Justice has delivered an opinion of no case to answer by any of these persons.

"All the suspects involved in the acts have been set free and indeed free to harass, annoy and intimidate us for daring to have them arrested. This decision not to prosecute, we plead, must be reviewed and rescinded so that this nest of killers are not allowed free reign in the society."

Speaking on behalf of Otulu-Ogwashi community, the Youth President, Mr. Francis Odiwanor, alleged that <u>Issele-</u> Azagba community youths invaded their farmland with firearms and killed three youths, while 11 others managed to escape with serious injuries.

"To our greatest shock in the face of credible evidence and written statements of our wounded youths, the Department of Public Prosecution, DPP, wrote that the culprits have no case to answer," he said.

## **Commissioner reacts**

In his reaction, the state Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, Mr. Peter Mrakpor, said that he does not have enough evidence to prosecute the suspected killers.

"What we have in the file for the two cases cannot give us conviction. We work with fact and documents and if the investigation is not done properly, there is nothing I can do. We don't have enough to prosecute," he said.

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