

Assassins kill Akwa Ibom monarch, youth leader

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By Emmanuel Ayungbe

IKOT ANTA ENEN OBOM—ARMED gangsters have reportedly executed the village head and youth leader of Ikot Anta Enen Obom village, Ukanafun Local Government Area, Akwa Ibom State, Chief Emmanuel Umahaeyo and Comrade Esit-Ime Emmanson Brownson respectively, for [allegedly](#) challenging a faction of the youth that hijacked the management and [control](#) of revenue from the community's oil palm plantation.

The killer squad also chased the village head of Ikot Ibekwe community, also in Ukanafun local government, Chief Sunday Udoikpe, whose town is embroiled in an ownership tussle over the plantation with Ikot Anta Enen Obom from his domain, while a close associate of the murdered monarch, Madam Mayen Emmanson, was abducted.

Governor Udom Emmanuel of
Akwa Ibom State

Rampaging killers

Residents, who fled the two communities, which are currently no-go-areas, point fingers at the police for not holding back the rampaging killers. However, the state Commissioner of Police, CP, Don Awunah, who [confirmed](#) the incidents, said he had since deployed men to the troubled areas to restore peace.

Investigations by Niger Delta Voice, NDV, showed that the killer-squad stormed the residence of Chief Umahaeyo, village head of Ikot Anta Enen Obom, at about 8.00 pm, January 24, and shot him to death in cold blood. The messengers of death allegedly came on a motorcycle, shot him twice in his chest at very close range. He died on the spot.

Our findings revealed that some of the fleeing residents were taking refuge in Uyo, the state [capital](#) and nearby communities, as hired gunmen were lurking around the communities. Similarly, the mercenary gang has overthrown the legitimate traditional authorities, hitherto, domiciled and subsumed under the command and control of the village heads and their councils.

Don Awunah, CP Akwa Ibom

Cause of disagreement

-Eldest son His eldest son, Otobong Umahaeyo, an Electrical/[Electronic Engineering](#) graduate of Enugu State University of Science and Technology, ESUST, Enugu, who spoke to NDV from his hideout, said the assassins had [earlier](#) threatened to kill his father over issues of youth' leadership and control of revenue from the village's oil palm plantation.

The palm fruits business from the plantation, he disclosed, yields about 200,000 bunches every other week, forcing the youth to take over control of the farm, covering several hectares of land from the late monarch and his council.

Agony: Lamenting his ordeal from his hideout, Otobong, said: "I was not at home when my father was killed. I was in Uyo while my mother was in Port Harcourt. My mother only called and told me that assassins came to our house and shot my father dead.

"I graduated last year and I am the eldest of six children, my younger sister is at the Akwa Ibom State University. The remaining four have finished from secondary schools, but with what happened, to further their education will be a big problem to me because my father was the only bread winner; we all depended on him."

Police arresting wrong persons: He blamed the Police for not doing a thorough job to fish out the real culprits, saying the police know the real killers, but were arresting the wrong people.

Secretary of Ikot Nta Enen Obom village council, Chief Moses Joseph Udoikpong, recalled that the plantation had been in dispute with the neighboring Ikot Ibekwe village before they finally won its ownership in court.