

# 2 die as Ogoni youths invade neighbouring community

By Davies Iheamnachor

**P**ORT HARCOURT—TWO persons are feared killed in Azubuogu community, Oyibo Local Government Area, Rivers State, as youths from neighbouring Ogoni community invaded the area.

It was learned that the youths, who invaded Azubuogu community in the early hours of Monday, also destroyed property worth millions of naira.

A source in the area, who gave his name simply as Mr. Emmanuel, alleged that the invading youths came from a neighbouring Loore community.

He also claimed that the bandits attacked Obete and Okponton communities in Oyibo, naming the deceased as Mr. Okechukwu Edward and Mr. Nnidi Okerenta, adding that many other persons were injured.

At press time, the reason for the attack had not been ascertained, but another source who did not want his name mentioned, noted that it was not unconnected with land dispute in the area.

Meanwhile, Public Relations Officer of the Rivers State Police Command, Nnamdi Omoni, who confirmed the incident in Port Harcourt yesterday, said: "The incident happened in Oyigbo council.

"From the report I got from the Divisional Police Officer in

Oyigbo, one person was killed. This happened at about 6.30a.m. on Monday, when youths from Ogoni invaded Azubuogu community and attacked some persons. One person was killed, while some persons were injured in the process.

"I think they are having a protracted land dispute and

during that attack, we came and chased them (attackers) into the bush. Normalcy has been restored and investigation is ongoing.

"We suspect the attack could be as a result of the land dispute, but the ongoing investigation will reveal the real cause of the attack that claimed one life."

## Tax agent defrauds employer of N2.4m

By Onozure Dania

**L**AGOS—A tax agent of a Lagos-based company, Kehinde Babatunde, yesterday appeared before a Lagos Magistrate's Court sitting in Igboosere, for allegedly defrauding his company to the tune of N2.4 million meant for tax payments.

Babatunde, 44, whose residential address was not stated, is standing trial on a six-count charge bordering on fraud, forgery and stealing, preferred against him by the Police.

The prosecutor, Sergeant Friday Mameh, informed the court that the defendant committed the offences from 2017 to sometime in 2018 in Lagos.

He said the defendant obtained the sum of N2.4 million from his company, DKR Associates, to remit into the account of Lagos State Inland Revenue Services for the company's annual tax payments, but did not remit the

money, instead converted it to his personal use.

Mameh said the defendant forged Lagos State Inland Revenue Services receipts with serial numbers 35911480/MINOHGAG dated February 6, 2017 and 35742568/UJKEHKND dated May 8, 2017.

He said the defendant also forged three bank tellers in the name of Lagos State Revenue Service deposit slip so that the documents would be acted upon as genuine to the prejudice of DKR Associates.

The defendant pleaded not guilty to the charge.

Magistrate K. S. Abdulsalam granted him N500,000 bail with two sureties in like sum.

She ordered that the sureties must show evidence of three years Land Use charge payments to the Lagos State Government and must show six months bank account statement, and adjourned the case till October 10.

## Truck crushes woman at Lagos BRT terminal