

# Mob sets ablaze Keke rider for theft of 3 children

By Perez Brisibe

**UGHELLI**— A tricycle operator popularly known as Keke, was reportedly burnt to death by an angry mob at the Iwhrenene axis of Ughelli, headquarters of Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State, yesterday, in a failed attempt to abduct three children.

Sources at the scene of the incident said the tricycle of the suspect was also set ablaze during the incident, which occurred at about 6 p.m after the children were rescued.

The source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said: "The Keke rider had conveyed the children from Emekpa axis of Ughelli to Afiesere community but somehow carried the children to Ughelli.

"Upon sensing danger, the eldest of the children immediately jumped out of the moving Keke and screamed for help, while the suspect tried fleeing with the other two children.

"He (suspect) was immediately chased by the mob, which had gathered following an alert raised by local vigilante operatives at Afiesere and Ekuigbo communities leading to his arrest at Iwhrenene community junction near Ekuigbo community, where he was immediately set ablaze."

Though efforts to speak with the state Police Public Relations Officer, Onome Onowakpoyeya, were fruitless, a source at the Police Area Command, Ughelli, confirmed the incident, adding that the matter wasn't reported at the local police station.