

Teenager hacked to death in Lagos apartment

By Efe Onodjaj

LAGOS—A 15-year-old boy, Jerome Emeka Akwuene, was reportedly hacked to death, Monday, by yet-to-be-identified persons at his father's residence in Ago Palace Way, Lagos State.

Late Emeka, who was a Senior Secondary School student, was found tied on his bed and a deep machete cut on his neck inside his room at 54, Niyi Onilari Street, Grand Mate bus stop, Ago Palace Way.

When Vanguard visited the scene yesterday, an apprentice with the late Emeka's father, identified simply as Chubuiké, said: "While at the shop yesterday, I became uncomfortable by 2 pm. I had the urge to close and go home but because it was not yet my closing time, I waited until 4.30 pm and I started packing the goods inside the shop.

Ordinarily, I usually trekked home but I boarded a tricycle. On reaching the house, I discovered that the washing machine was on and water was flowing without hearing the voice of Emeka in the house. I came outside and asked neighbours if they saw Emeka leaving for his mother's shop but they said no.

"I went back inside and on opening Emeka's room, it was like a wrestling ground, and I saw Emeka lying lifeless with a knife stained with blood beside him. That was around 5:40 pm."

Chubuiké described the deceased as an easy-going boy with no social life. He said: "Emeka would be at home throughout the day without anyone knowing.

"He was good at sleeping and waking up with his laptop. His dressing was always very simple. His mother got him

flashy wears but he would never put them on, even when he went to church.

"The only time he complained about a matter was when he borrowed his classmate a laptop and he (friend) spoiled it while coding software because they were being taught coding in school."

The bereaved father, Mr Jerome Akwuene, reported the incident to the Police in Ago.

Emeka's remains have been deposited in the mortuary while homicide detectives from the State Criminal Investigations and Intelligence Department, SCIID, Panti, Yaba have taken over the case.

The Lagos State Police Public Relations Officer, SP Benjamin Hundeyin, confirmed the incident and said no arrest had been made so far but that investigation was ongoing.

Land dispute: Pastor, 2 others, killed as Delta communities renew hostilities

By Ochuko Akuopha

UGHELLI—A pastor and two others were reportedly killed in fresh hostilities between Amai and Umuebu communities, Ukwuani Local Government Area, Delta State, over a protracted land dispute between the communities.

The pastor, it was gathered, was riding on a motorcycle with his wife, on Monday, when he was ambushed and shot dead by his assailants.

A source, yesterday, said: "Before now, two persons have been beheaded. This particular portion of land has been under contention between the two communities and today (Tuesday) one of the Onetukus confirmed that the issue has been on for more than 100 years.

"The killings were on both sides; when one side strikes, the other side retaliates, but there are so many

persons who feel that some ritualists are taking advantage of the crisis to do some killings.

"Two persons were shot two weeks ago but they did not die; they escaped with bullet wounds.

"Chairman of the local government area over the weekend met with both communities and had long hours of meetings with them with police and soldiers in attendance only for another killings to take place on Monday.

"Today, the chairman went back to the communities and appealed to them to sheath their swords."

Delta State Police Command's Police Public Relations Officer, Mr Bright Edafe, who confirmed the killing of two persons, said "one of them, a pastor and his wife riding on a bike were shot and the husband died."

He could, however, not ascertain if the killings were a result of the crisis between the two communities.

4 Kevin: Killed kidnapped victim buried in