

Asari killed as P-Harcourt cult war escalates

By Egufe Yafugborhi

PORT HARCOURT—RENEWED cults rivalry in volatile Diobu, Port Harcourt City Local Government Area, Rivers State, again got fatal, Wednesday night, as a gang leader, popularly known as Asari was gunned down.

Spokesperson, Rivers State Police Command, Grace Inging-Koko, who confirmed the killing yesterday, said Asari was shot dead at Ekwe/Ikwerre Road, Mile 3, Diobu in the heart of the Rivers capital.

Inging-Koko stated: "It was as a result of cult rivalry and the Commissioner of Police, Effiong Okon, has mandated tactical teams and other officers to fish out the perpetrators and sponsors of the cult clash while investigation is ongoing."

Chief Security Officer, CSO, of Nkpohu Oroworukwo Mile 3, under Diobu Vigilante Group, Godstime Ihunwo, informed that "at about 8pm Wednesday, we heard two gunshots at Ikwerre Road/Ekwe Street and rushed down to the scene to meet 'Asari' laying dead.

"We immediately approached the Nkpohu Police Station to report the incident. As we were leading the Police to the crime scene, we got report that some gunmen came in in a Jetta and Mazda vehicles and made away with the corpse.

"I call on the general public to remain calm and go about their lawful activities as the Police and the vigilantes are on ground to restore sanity to the area."

An eyewitness claimed that "Asari was standing with some persons when about five armed men came out from a car and shot him thrice and fled the scene.

"It is an escalation of the supremacy war among the History and Blackies Houses of dreaded Deygbam cult against the D12 and BS Houses of Deygbam cult that was set off in a shootout at Elechi Beach Mile 1 Diobu, Tuesday, with two persons feared dead even as the Police said no life was lost in that encounter."