

Gunmen kill 2 clerics in Akwa Ibom



By Egufe Yafugborhi & Chioma Onuegbu

UYO— GUNMEN suspected to be hired assassins have killed the General Overseer, Mount of Solution Redeemed Church in Ikot Ekang community, Abak Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State, Prophet Elisha Asuquo and a pastor of his church, Apostle Aniekan Ibanga.

It was gathered that both pastors were killed at 7p.m., last Friday within the church premises at Ikot Ekang. Sources from the area told some newsmen that the gunmen had stormed the church premises on a motorcycle when the pastors were holding a meeting and shot them dead.

The gunmen reportedly fled the community through Abak-Ikot Ekpene federal highway.

It was gathered that the late men of God, Elisha Asuquo and Pastor Ibanga hailed from Adiasim in Essien Udim Local Government Area and Ikot Obioikpa village, Afaha Obong Clan in Abak Local Government Area of the state.

A community leader in Ikot Ekang, Bishop John Kpongpong, when contacted by some newsmen, described the killings as shocking.

He said he was preparing for a church programme by 8p.m., when he received a call about the killings, noting: “While I was still on that call another person came in and told me that Prophet Elisha and Pastor Aniekan have been killed.

“I had to close from the church and rushed to the palace of the Village Head to inform him of what happened. After informing him of what happened, he instructed me to call the police, which I did.

“On getting to the church premises (where the pastors were killed), I saw many people gather while policemen from Abak Division were performing their duty. I appeal to the police to properly investigate the matter.”

It was gathered that a delegation from Ikot Obioikpa led by the village Head, Christopher Udotim has visited the Village Head of Ikot Ekang (place of the incident), Okon Udo to inquire whether there was any issue in the church that led to the killing of their son, Pastor Ibanga.

The village Head of Ikot Ekang, Chief Udo in response told the delegation that he never heard that the Church had any crisis since its establishment in the community.

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