

# Carnage in Agenebode over kidnap, killing of resident



**By Ozioruva Aliu**

**BENIN CITY**—A midday carnage, yesterday, swept through Agenebode, the headquarters of Etsako East Local Government Area of Edo State, as several persons were reported killed and burnt, including the police station and all the vehicles inside, which were set ablaze over allegations that suspected criminal Fulani have been kidnapping and killing people in the area for organ harvesting and selling and was allegedly being protected by the police.

The incident that led to this carnage according to a resident was the case of a young boy, who was said to have been kidnapped some weeks ago and after ransom was paid, he was still not released.

It was gathered that the community youths were able to track the phone and the user was arrested and handed over to the police in the process, the user was traced to the head of the Hausa/Fulani community in the area.

Not satisfied with the way the police were handling the matter, the youths of the community were said to have stormed the police station and taken away the suspect, who it was gathered led them to the house of the Hausa/Fulani leader where on prodding, allegedly confessed to them that several kidnapped victims have been killed buried in shallow graves after part of their bodies had been harvested.

The infuriated youths dug out the decomposing body of the young man in the compound of the leader of the Hausa/Fulani, who had reportedly fled with his family and in the process of digging up the decomposing body, saw several bones believed to be that of human beings.

In anger, the youths were said to have burnt down the building and then the business centres of several other Hausa/Fulani youths killing some of them and then storming the police station and setting it ablaze.

One of the youths said: “Enough is enough, this must stop, police kill our children and still collect money from us, these kidnappers will kidnap our children, collect money and still kill them.”

They will collect, N2.5 million sometimes N3 million from us and still the victims.”

When contacted, the chairman of the council, Mrs. Benedicta Atoh was said to be too shocked to talk as claimed by one of his aides.

The Assistant Inspector General of Police (AIG) Zone 5, Arungwa Udo and the Commissioner of Police in the State Nemi Edwin-Iwo, have visited the place apparently to restore order and have an on-the-spot assessment.

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer of the Edo State Command, Moses Yamu replied through a text message that “Will get back to you ASAP (as soon as possible).”