

Edo govt condemns killing of 42-yr-old businessman

By Ozioruva Aliu

BENIN CITY—THE Edo State Government has condemned the killing of a Benin-based realtor and businessman, Mr. Joel Isibor.

The 42-year-old estate developer and owner of a boutique was killed by gunmen, who were said to have broken into his store Friday evening and shot him at close range.

Vanguard gathered that the killing may not be unconnected with cult clash between suspected members of Black Axe and Maphite.

Edo State Deputy governor, Mr. Dennis Idahosa, yesterday, visited the residence of the family of the deceased to commiserate with the family where he said Governor Monday Okpebholo was deeply touched and saddened over the "killing of a vibrant young and energetic man."

He assured that the state government would not leave any stone unturned to fish out the perpetrators of the dastardly act and bring them to book.

Idahosa warned criminal elements "to relocate from Edo State as the government will not compromise its stand on dealing with criminals and their collaborators, using the instrumentality of the law, to serve as deterrent to others."

Responding, Mrs. Joel Isibor, widow of the deceased businessman, appreciated the state government for its prompt response to commiserate with the family and described her husband's death as a heinous crime against humanity.

She said the assailant laid ambush for her husband, while trying to lock the shop after the day's business and opened fire on him, without any provocation, while nothing was removed from the store.