

Okigwe massacre: Police to go after assassins

● Ihedioha, Amadi mourn

By Chidi Nkwopara

OWERRI — Imo State Police Command has, in response to the gruesome murder of five people at Ajanaumuna, Ezinachi, Okigwe, deployed its tactical teams to the area, to go after the hoodlums "responsible for the senseless attack".

The Command's Public Relations Officer, PPRO, Mr. Henry Okoye, who confirmed this via a press release yesterday, also said that the Command is working in synergy with other sister security agencies and local vigilantes.

His words: "The attack took place on August 22, 2025, at about 2230hrs.

"During the attack, Edeh George 'm', a member of the local youth security team, together with four villagers, identified as Emeka Ezeagwu-la 'm', Chikodi Ezeagwu-la 'f', Chidi Chileke 'm', and Ejike Nwankwo 'm', were fatally shot.

"The assailants further set ablaze the residence of the youth security leader and destroyed five motorcycles.

"Upon receipt of the distress report, police operatives swiftly mobilised to the scene, evacuated the victims to General Hospital, Okigwe, where doctors confirmed them dead on arrival.

"Their remains have been deposited at the hospital mortuary, while one survivor is currently receiving medical treatment.

"The Commissioner of Police, CP, Aboki Danjuma, who is personally leading an intense operation in Okigwe, alongside other security agencies, condemned the heinous act and assured that no stone will be left unturned in bringing the perpetrators to justice.

"He stressed that those behind the attack will be made to face the full weight of the law."

Meanwhile, angry reactions have started trailing the Ezinachi murder, which came on the heels of the killing of two vigilante members by Fulani herdsmen at Amakohia-Ubi, Owerri West local council area of Imo State.

In his own reaction, Emeka Ihedioha said, "This massacre is not just a statistic. These were fathers, mothers, sons, daughters, and defenders of

their community.

"Their blood cries out against the collapse of security, the erosion of human dignity, and the indifference that continues to embolden evil in our land.

Reacting also, Dr. Chima Matthew Amadi said: "This heart-wrenching tragedy has once again exposed the fragility of our collective peace and the urgent need for renewed commitment to security and justice.

Guber poll: Anambra traders endorse Soludo for re-election

By Vincent Ujumadu

AWKA- Traders from over 105 markets under the auspices of Anambra State Market Amalgamated Traders Association (ASMATA) have endorsed the re-election of Governor Chukwuma Soludo.

Led by the President-General of Ogbaru Main Market, Ndubuisi Ochiogu, who gathered at the Justice Chuba Ikpeazu Stadium, Onitsha, donated N10 million to support their logistics ahead of the November 8 governorship election.

Tagged 'A Day of Celebration with Anambra Traders in Appreciation of Soludo's Good Works', Ochiogu said the governor deserved a second tenure to continue the good work he is doing for Anambra people.

"Traders in Anambra will vote massively for Soludo. We are working tirelessly to en-

sure his victory on November 8. This is our way of repaying him for the transformation he has brought to Anambra. He is truly a God-sent Governor," Ochiogu said.

The traders also commended the establishment of *Agunechemba* security outfit, noting that working alongside official security agencies, the group has contributed to the restoration of law and order and creation of a safer environment for business to thrive.

Addressing them, Governor Soludo expressed deep gratitude for the overwhelming support for his administration and reaffirmed the state government's commitment to working with market stakeholders to drive the continuous transformation of Anambra State.

"When I applied for the job of governor, I was intentional about recreating and regenerating Anambra. That vision remains intact. We haven't borrowed a single kobo since

assuming office, yet development is happening. Sustaining this momentum requires the active support of all stakeholders, and traders play a very significant role," Soludo stated.

He also revealed plans to harmonize taxes and levies across the state to eliminate issues of multiple taxation and overlapping revenue collection between local and state agencies.

Stakeholders urge fund HIV/AIDS in Ebonyi

By Jeff Agbodo

ABAKALIKI—Medical stakeholders in Ebonyi State have appealed to the government to fund HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) programmes to ensure the