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Quinns ask for help to seek justice

Thursday, November 29, 2007

By Victoria O'Hara

The family of murdered south Armagh man Paul Quinn have appealed to hundreds of people for help in getting justice.

The call was made at a meeting held in Cullyhanna Community Centre last night in support of the Quinn family.

About 200 people attended the meeting which opened with a minute's silence in memory of Mr Quinn.

The 21-year-old lorry driver was beaten to death in Co Monaghan last month.

It is believed a gang of nine men was involved.

No-one has been charged in connection with Mr Quinn's death.

During the meeting the family called on the community to help them get justice.

But his mother, Briege, said she wanted no retaliation for the killing.

"I also want to plead again and again for no retaliation for Paul's death," she said.

"Please don't break windows or intimidate people because you are hurting them, but you are also hurting us as well," she added.

Mr Quinn's family blame the IRA for the murder.

However, Sinn Fein denies there was any republican involvement in the savage killing.

No representatives from the party attended the meeting.

Mr Quinn's family believe he was lured from Cullyhanna across the border into the Republic by members of the Provisional movement and beaten to death following a dispute with republicans from south Armagh.

Their suspicions have been backed by former Sinn Fein politician Jim McAllister, who said: "Not only the family, but the whole community think the IRA carried it out. Those that doubt it are those that are being told to doubt it, and who would believe whatever they're told."

First Minister and DUP leader the Rev Ian Paisley - who has previously raised the issue with Prime Minister Gordon Brown - said if the murder was the work of the Provisional IRA then "very serious consequences will flow from that".

It is understood more meetings organised by The Paul Quinn Support Group are to be held in a bid to unite the community.

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
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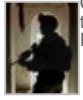
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