

3 Killed In Benue Cult Clash



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At least three people have been reportedly killed following a deadly clash between suspected rival cult groups at the Agwan Jukun suburb of Makurdi metropolis in Benue State.

Residents said that the incident, which happened between Sunday night and early hours of Monday, has caused panic in the affected vicinity.

The residents said that the violence, which erupted around 8pm on Sunday forced residents to flee their homes, while businesses shut abruptly as panic spread across the community.

Witnesses who declined their names on print explained that the rival groups carried out a coordinated operation, targeting specific individuals.

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One resident, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the assailants moved with precision.

“They came into the area around 8pm and went straight for their targets. It was clear they knew who they were looking for,” the witness said.

The killings reportedly occurred along Market Street and Wukari Street, with witnesses to the cult rivalry alleging the actors were likely aided by insiders familiar with the movements of their targets.

“The way they operated showed they were not random attackers. It appeared they came from outside but had information from within the community,” another resident added.

The residents further said that the tension remained high on Monday, particularly around the market area near a mosque, as fear of further violence lingered.

“People are still afraid. Many have fled, and businesses remain closed,” a resident said.

Some residents said on Tuesday that there are still indications of a possible reprisal, with some youths reportedly seen brandishing weapons earlier in the morning.

However, attempts to reach the Chairman of Makurdi Local Government Council, Joseph Keffi, were unsuccessful, as he did not respond to calls or messages as of press time.

Similarly, the Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Udeme Edet, had yet to provide an official update on the incident, despite earlier assurances.