

Iyana Offa-Iwo boundary clash: I shot Segun dead, but it was in self-defence, suspected killer admits

Oluwatoyin Malik July 11, 2026



 Add as a preferred source

A farmer and hunter, Yusuf (first name withheld), from Iwo in Osun State, who has been arrested by Oyo State Police Command for alleged murder and attempted murder over boundary dispute between the Iyana-Offa people in Oyo State and Iwo people in Osun State, has told the story of what led him into committing the act, insisting that it was in revenge of the killings of his own people which he accused the other side of.

Yusuf is currently undergoing interrogation at the Monitoring Unit of the Command over the alleged killing of one Adegoke Oluwasegun, popularly called Segun, on April 10, 2025, and an attempted murder of one Joseph Ajayi whom he allegedly fired on the chest on June 25, 2026, at Oke Odo area, Offa Community in Lagelu Local Government Area at about 9:30a.m. while he (Ajayi) was on the farm with others.

It would be recalled that a boundary conflict between Iwo Town in Osun State and the Iyana Offa/Offa-Igbo communities in Lagelu Local Government, Oyo State over a 3000-hectare stretch of land turned violent, resulting in deadly clashes, destruction of property, and the displacement of hundreds of farmers.

The disputed area spans from the Oyi River in Oyo to the Oba River in Osun, encompassing roughly a dozen villages, including Ogunajo, Paku, Eleye, and Oloya. Iwo and Offa-Igbo locals claim traditional ownership over a string of agrarian villages situated between the Oyi and Oba rivers, and the perennial crisis led to lawsuits and interim court injunctions restricting trespassing and violence in the affected areas.



The suspects and the exhibits recovered from them.

To prevent a full-scale interstate communal war, the governors of both states – Seyi Makinde of Oyo and Ademola Adeleke of Osun – held high-level peace meetings, while the leaders formally urged the National Boundary Commission to intervene and permanently clarify the precise interstate boundaries to restore lasting peace.

To restore order, the Nigeria Police Force and local authorities have intervened to maintain peace, making several arrests, with the latest being that of Yusuf, as it seems the tension over the boundary dispute remains unabated.

Saturday Tribune gathered that immediately Yusuf shot Ajayi, he was grabbed by those around the scene to prevent his escape and taken to Iyana Offa police station. From there, he was transferred to the Monitoring Unit. During preliminary investigation, the suspect reportedly confirmed firing Ajayi, but claimed it was in retaliation to the shot also fired at him by the injured man which, however, didn't penetrate his body.

During further interrogation, Yusuf also confessed to killing Segun, aged 33, after which he buried his remains in a shallow grave dug on his farm. Not satisfied with that, Yusuf disclosed that he set ablaze a tractor belonging to the Local Government Council and sold a motorcycle which belonged to Segun for N200,000.

In a press briefing on Tuesday, July 7, the Police Public Relations Officer in Oyo Police Command, DSP Olayinka Ayanlade, said that the Command had been investigating the matter following communal clashes in Iyana Offa, Iyana Igbo and other communities between Oyo and Osun states.

The clashes, the PPRO stated, led to the murder of an individual, Segun, in 2025, with his remains missing when the incident occurred. This, he disclosed, made the then Commissioner of Police and the Deputy Governor of Oyo State to visit the scene.

"All efforts to locate the body of the deceased proved abortive, until recently when the same suspect shot a man, Joseph Ajayi, whom he alleged to have attacked him in the same community, bordering on land dispute.

"He was arrested, and upon investigation by the operatives of the Command's Monitoring Unit, he confessed to having been the one, together with three others currently at large, that killed Segun and buried him in a shallow grave at Iyana Offa.

"We obtained an order of the court for exhumation. The body was exhumed and has been deposited in the morgue. The family has identified the corpse as the son they have been looking for."

Initially recovered from the Yusuf were two dane guns, two live cartridges and criminal charms. On getting to the spot where the victim was buried, a locally-made single barrel gun with one live cartridge, covered with dry palm leaves, was recovered near the shallow grave when disclosed by him.

"This speaks volumes of the Command's capacity to investigate cases and ensure that they are resolved. Regardless of how long they take, the Oyo State Police Command will keep digging and working assiduously to ensure that justice is served. Anyone found wanting will also be made to face the full wrath of the law," DSP Ayanlade stated.

A second suspect, Tunde Ase Adeyinka, a citizen of Republic of Benin domiciled in Iwo, was also arrested for providing ammunition to Yusuf when he (Yusuf) told the operatives the source of the live cartridges found with him.

On what is being done to end the clashes, the PPRO said that the Command is working with all relevant agencies and government parastatals to ensure this.

On Tuesday, Yusuf led the Monitoring Unit operatives, the PPRO and Saturday Tribune to the bush at Eleru Village, Oke Afo, deep inside Offa community, where he also had a farm, and showed them the water-logged spot where Segun was buried.

In an interview with Saturday Tribune, Yusuf, who hails from Iwo, gave reasons for Segun's murder and the move to do the same thing for Ajayi. According to him, "It's been a long time since the Offa people have been waging war against us on land matter at Oke Oba Parapo, Iwo. They would suddenly come, claiming the land that belong to us in Iwo, particularly where I live, which is about four kilometres to them. They would come brandishing pump action and double-barrel locally-made guns, and chase us away from our settlement. The place is deserted now.

"Whenever that happened, we would go to the elders in our community who would also go to the police station to report. At a time, the ruckus was too frequent. In August 2023, the Iyana Offa people came again to wage another battle. Before that day, I had been a target they wanted to kill, but I was not on the farm. Same August, on a Friday, I was called that the Iyana Offa people, about nine of them armed with guns, had come looking for me. The following day, Saturday, I went to Amotekun Corps in Iwo and lodged a report. From there, we went to Osogbo headquarters of Amotekun on the advice of the head in Iwo. They said they would invite community leaders for a meeting, after which they would come to help us secure our abodes.

"On Sunday, we just left a meeting when the Iyana Offa people came again. They waylaid three of us who just left the meeting, beat them mercilessly and fled to one man, Sunday Ogunola, who used to harbour them and their weapons. We called the police and nine of them were arrested and taken to Iwo. From Iwo, they were taken to State Intelligence Department (SID) in Osogbo and detained. After four months, they were released on bail, but they returned to start troubling us again.

"In 2025, I was at home when Segun and his guys came to me with guns. I quickly ran out with my gun. Immediately he saw me, he ordered me to come, but I asked if he was crazy to tell me that. The next thing he did was to shoot me directly on the chest with a double-barrel gun, but when he saw that the bullet did not penetrate my body, he turned and started running away with his men. I didn't allow him to take the motorcycle that brought him to my house. I pursued him but couldn't find him. Again, I went to our community leaders to report the case.

"On April 10, the same year, they came again, and four of us – Taofeek, Sodiq and Talubi and I – went to confront them. As he was approaching me, I shot and killed him."

ALSO READ: FG evacuates additional 39 Nigerians from South Africa

After the killing, Yusuf said that he threw the deceased's phone into the river to make him untraceable, while he was buried in a shallow grave in the bush because he didn't want the body to be taken away. Yusuf's reason for doing this, according to him, was that the other side did same to some of his people they allegedly killed also. "They killed among Amotekun and vigilantes that were protecting us at that time. Even when some foreigners from the Benin Republic who were farming with us saw that they couldn't handle the Offa people again, they started paying levy imposed on them," Yusuf said.

On the recent attempted murder, Yusuf said that the Iyana Offa people had been after him with the intent to kill him. "On June 25, I came from the town, changed into my farm clothes and wanted to go and hide my motorcycle in the bush when I was ambushed by the Offa people and Joseph (Ajayi) shot me up to three times. It was a pump-action gun. I fell from my motorcycle. That was when I also shot him back in retaliation. He was the one who wanted to kill me, and I returned fire for fire," explained.

Yusuf, who showed no remorse for the killing, insisted that he carried out the act in defence. "They were the ones who came to us in our settlement. We didn't go to them. You have to forgive us."

The second suspect, Adeyinka, who is from Sabe in Republic of Benin and in his late 50s, but had been living in Iwo Town in Nigeria since 1982, said: "I'm a farmer and palmwine tapper. I am also a member of Vigilante Group of Nigeria (VGN).

"I don't know anything about Segun's murder. I sold cartridges to Yusuf in May this year. Police operatives, Amotekun Corps and VGN members were deployed to the boundary being disputed for security. I was the one leading the Iwo team of the VGN and we had four of our members among the security operatives.

"Last year, on a particular day, I didn't go to work, and when a clash occurred between the two sides, one of my men was killed. We found his body the following day and the gun with him was taken away by unknown persons. When we were about to bury him, I found four cartridges in his pocket and removed them. We were given the cartridges by our Commander for a single barrel gun he had with him before he was killed.

"I got to know Yusuf in the place we were asked to secure. He is also a hunter. I sold the four cartridges to him for N24,000 because I no longer had a gun. The mistake I made was that I didn't return them to our Commander."

Segun's father, Mr Kamoru Adegoke, aged 64, who was shedding tears while speaking with Saturday Tribune, disclosed that the deceased was his only child. "I'm an Ibadan indigene and his mother, my wife, is from Offa. He was living in Offa with the mother while I used to come to visit them.

"On April 10, 2025, his wife called me that Segun was missing after he said he was taking caps to someone in the village. We started searching for him but didn't see him. I was just called on Sunday, July 5, that his remains have been discovered where they were buried."

The father, weeping, appealed to the government to ensure justice for his late son.

One Mr Sunday Ogunola living at Olowode community under Lagelu LGA also spoke with Saturday Tribune: "Since the time of our forbears, we have always belonged to Offa. When things turned the way it currently is, we informed community leaders to resolve the issue but there was no concrete response. Those fighting against Offa set ablaze the local government tractor and fled into the bush.

"On the day Segun was shot to death, he came to give me caps to distribute them among others for use during an upcoming carnival anniversary. The Iwo people also came to my house, threatening to kill me for claiming that Olowode belongs to Oloffa. I insisted that my forefathers were under the Oloffa and not Iwo, and I became their target for the kill because of that. There was a day I was shot on my back. I was only fortunate that the pellets didn't penetrate me. Even, since Yusuf's arrest, his group members have been coming to my house, finding ways of killing me. We have all deserted our houses because of the threat."

Meanwhile, the police are still in search of the suspects at large who were named by Yusuf as having been part of Segun's murder, while the latest victim, Ajayi, is still on admission in a hospital (name withheld) after pellets were extracted from the right side of his chest.