

Two killed in Ondo APC bloody congress

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| By Our Reporters

The ongoing ward congress of the All Progressives Congress in Ondo State on Wednesday turned violent, leaving two people dead and several others injured in Idanre Local Government Area.

The incident came barely 24 hours after political thugs attacked the APC Secretariat in Akure, disrupting a stakeholders meeting presided over by the state chairman, Ade Adetimehin.

During the attack, the chairman and other party leaders were assaulted, and many members sustained injuries.

On Wednesday, reports indicated that the congress could not hold in some wards in Idanre after suspected hoodlums attacked party members. Vehicles were reportedly set ablaze during the crisis.

The cause of the crisis was yet unknown as of the time of filing this report.

One of the victims is the brother of the APC chairman, Raphael Adetimehin, who was brutally attacked by the suspected political thugs at his ward in Idanre.

The APC chairman, Adetimehin, who confirmed the incident, said his brother was attacked by the hoodlums.

He said his brother was shot and hacked with a machete while the attackers allegedly burnt his car.

“My brother was attacked; those who attacked him thought I was the one because we resemble each other very well.

“After shooting and stabbing him, they left him when they thought he was dead. I don’t know why we are taking politics to this extent,” Adetimehin stated.

A statement by the Ondo State Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Abayomi Jimoh, confirmed that two people were killed and three others injured in Idanre.

The attack, according to the statement, occurred around 11 am, adding that a vehicle was set ablaze.

“Subsequently, the Commissioner of Police, alongside the State Commandant of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, CC Oluyemi Ibiyoye, personally led a combined team of security operatives to the scene.

“Their timely intervention ensured the restoration of peace and order in the affected area,” the statement read.

Jimoh added, “Three victims sustained varying degrees of injury and are currently receiving medical attention, while two others were confirmed dead at the hospital.

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“Investigation is ongoing to unravel the circumstances surrounding the attack and to apprehend those responsible for this heinous act.”

The police urged residents to remain calm, assuring that additional tactical teams had been deployed to secure the area and prevent further violence.

To forestall any further breakdown of law and order, the CP ordered the immediate deployment of additional tactical teams to secure the area and its environs, to protect lives and property.

APC elders condemn attacks

Ondo State APC elders under the PBAT Mandate Elders Forum condemned Tuesday’s attack on the party secretariat in Akure. During the assault, 15 elders were reportedly injured and are receiving treatment in the hospital.

The elders described the incident as a violation of democratic principles, party discipline, and the rule of law.

In a statement signed by its chairman, Pa Erastus Akeju, the forum said, “The violent assault and public humiliation of the Ondo State APC Chairman, Engr. Ade Adetimehin, alongside respected party leaders and stakeholders, by hoodlums masquerading as political actors, which is utterly reprehensible.

“Such lawlessness is unacceptable in any democratic society, more so within a party that prides itself on progressive values, internal democracy, and respect for constituted authority.”

Akeju called on President Bola Tinubu to intervene, stating, “The President’s lifelong commitment to democracy, justice, and institutional order must now find expression in restoring sanity, ensuring accountability, and reaffirming that violence will never be rewarded in our party.”

He further urged the National Chairman of the APC, Prof Nentawe Yilwatda and the National Working Committee to act swiftly, emphasising the need for thorough investigation, appropriate sanctions, and clear directives to reinforce discipline and security across party structures nationwide.

“Let me state clearly and without equivocation that intimidation, thuggery, and physical violence have no place in politics.

“The APC was not built by brigandage; it was built by ideas, dialogue, and the collective will of Nigerians who believe in democratic governance.

“When leaders are beaten, and elders are disgraced within the precincts of a party secretariat, the very foundation of political order is threatened.

“On behalf of the PBAT Mandate Elders Forum, Ondo State, I condemn this incident in the strongest terms.

“It is an assault not only on individuals, but on the integrity of the All Progressives Congress itself. Silence or indifference in the face of such brutality would embolden impunity and invite further chaos,” the statement added.