8 killed, 12 missing in Okada clash

VINCENT ADEKOYE, Benin

A T least eight persons were killed and 12 others declared missing during a communal clash that erupted in the University town of Okada in the Ovia North East local government area of Edo State.

Trouble reportedly started Tuesday afternoon when an Idoma woman settler was allegedly killed in her farm by unknown persons on the area.

Idoma people who are farmers resident in the community were said to have accused Hausa/Fulani herdsmen of perpetuating the dastardly act and avenged the death

of the yet to be identified woman by killing one Hausa man.

The reprisal attack according to eye-witness account resulted in a fresh clash in which dangerous weapons like guns and cutlasses were freely used.

As at the time of his report, a source who pleaded anonymity told newsmen that the corpses of the victims of the bloody clash, were being picked one after the other by combined team of military and police on the streets of the town and taking to mortuary, in Benin.