

# 2 killed in Epe crisis

LUKKEY ABAWURU

**A**T least two people were feared dead and several others wounded in a renewed clash between the Olumegbo chieftaincy family and the Ajah indigenes in Epe local government area of Lagos State over land dispute.

Also, several houses were allegedly set ablaze in the crisis which erupted yesterday morning.

*Daily Champion* learnt that yesterday's crisis was sparked off by a minor disagreement between two persons from the opposing camps.

A middle aged man from a royal family was said to have been assault-

ed by his perceived enemy from Ajah and this degenerated into violence.

Although details of the assaulted were not known, a witness said the two persons who caused the fight were motor touts whose minor disagreements attracted the support of their respective loyalties.

At first, the hoodlums blocked the major road in the area and made bon fires, causing stampede and pandemonium in the place.

Business activities were paralysed temporarily as youths from both factions armed with guns, knives and dangerous weapons chanted war songs.

The identities of the two people killed were not ascertained, but our

source said the "Victims were killed by stray bullets.

The source who pleaded for anonymity said houses belonging to various people in both camps were burnt, adding that those injured are recuperating in a Lagos hospital at Ajah.

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. Olubode Ojajuni, was said to have gone out for an official assignment but a source from his office confirmed that Ajah was enmeshed in crisis.

The source said that 16 people, believed to have masterminded the crisis have been arrested by the Police.