



# CHAMPION

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### Anambra: 3 killed in Obosi communal clash

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Alphonsus Nweze, Onitsha

At least three persons were said to have lost their lives and property worth about N100 million destroyed at the weekend in a renewed communal violence at Obosi community in Idemili North Local Government Area of Anambra State.

The communal crisis which has rocked the community for some time now, over who controls land sale in the community, took a dangerous turn last week when two rival groups clashed, leaving three people dead, several others wounded and vehicles and motorcycles worth several millions of Naira destroyed.

According to eyewitnesses, a team of policemen who were said to have come from Force headquarters Abuja last week arrested some people said to be loyal to a faction of the rival group.

After the arrest, continued the source, those whose camp were victims of the arrest were said to have been incensed and attacked the other camp they suspected were the ones who invited the police to arrest their people.

But in a counter reaction, the other camp mobilised last weekend and attacked the houses of the members of the other rival group and that of the patrons Chief Omezie Chukwurah, alias Governor, destroying about 11 vehicles and setting the house ablaze while one Nnamdi Obigbu from Mmakwum Village, Obosi was killed and several others sustained various degrees of injuries.

Daily Champion further gathered that two other people were macheted to death in the process as the rival groups engaged themselves in supremacy gun battle but none succumbed as bullets could not enter them due to the alleged possession of charms. But when one of the other rival groups overwhelmed the other, they resorted to the use of machetes and clubs, leading to the gruesome death of two persons.

When contacted, the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) in charge of Obosi Mr. Innocent Anene, confirmed the report but refused to elaborate.

However, Police spokesman in the state, Mr. Emeka Chukwuemeka, who also confirmed the incident said the police have deployed men to keep a 24-hour surveillance in the community, assuring that they were on top of the situation. He said no arrest has been made.

All efforts to get the leadership of the two rival groups proved abortive as they were said to have gone into hiding for fear of reprisal attack and police arrest.



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