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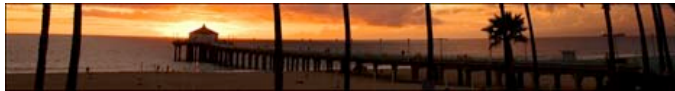
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Nigeria: Two Killed, Others Injured in Land Conflict

Alphonsus Nweze

17 May 2011

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Onitsha — LAND speculation crisis in Obosi, in Idemili North Local Government Area of Anambra State has re-echoed following a deadly fight attack by youth group who stormed the venue of the swearing in of the new executives of the Obosi Land Management Committee, killing two persons and several other persons injured.

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This immediately sparked off crisis in the community as the two rival groups went to each other's members houses, leading to the burning of several houses allegedly belonging to members of the rival groups.

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According to sources close to the venue of the swearing in ceremony, the occasion had just started at Obosi town hall, at about 2pm, when some fierce-looking thugs armed with dangerous weapons said to be loyal to the past executives stormed the venue unleashing rain of terror on the people.

The sources said that the hoodlums started shooting, beating and turning the seats upside down indiscriminately, forcing people to scamper to safety and in the process at least two persons were left dead and several others injured.

Daily Champion gathered that about ten others were injured and not less than twenty houses burnt in the attack, even though there was said to be heavy Police presence.

It can be recalled that there had been a lingering crisis in the community over the control of the sale of communal land, leading to several deaths and destruction of houses and other valuable property running into millions of naira.



The traditional ruler of the town, Engr. Josiah Nwakaoby was dethroned by the Anambra state government over his alleged lack of

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control of the crisis in his community sometime ago but it had been rescinded.

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When contacted the traditional ruler blamed the crisis on the Police who he said that inspite of their heavy presence failed to prevail on these miscreants from invading the venue of the swearing in ceremony.

The traditional ruler said that these hoodlums after unleashing the rain of terror on the people, went to their houses and set them ablaze, saying that two persons were killed, ten houses and two vehicles set ablaze.

When contacted the Police Public Relation Officer (PPRO), Anambra State Police Command, Mr. Emeka Chukwuemeka, an Assistant Superintendent of Police who confirmed the incident said that he would not be able to give the details because they were still in crucial security meeting.

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