

• 150 injured

2 beheaded as cultists clash in Igbinedion varsity

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An early morning violent clash between ex-militants and students suspected to be cultists of the Igbinedion University, Okada, Edo State yesterday

left two persons beheaded, with scores of students and residents injured.

An un-confirmed report said two students of the University whose identities have not yet

been confirmed were beheaded.

Over three vehicles were touched in the shootout which lasted for several hours.

Daily Champion gathered that staff and

students have defied the Institution's restriction order following the pandemonium that broke out in the sleepy town of Okada.

It was also learnt that parents and guardians

whose wards are residents on campus have resorted to self help to evacuate their children and loved ones.

Trouble started when the alleged Cultists were

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said to be carrying out their initiation around the University Community, which resulted to assault on one of the ex-militants whom they claimed was working at cross purpose at about 5am.

The Victim went to complain to his Ex-militants friends who stormed the scene in large number and fired unrealized gunfire for several hours.

Edo State Police Commissioner, Mr. Olayinka Balogun who confirmed the report to newsmen yesterday, said, five Suspects in connection with the incident are in Police Custody.

Igbinedion

He said one was injured person during the fracas is currently receiving treatment at undisclosed hospital.

Balogun who admitted Anti riot Policemen have been deployed to the scene argued that the Police got a tip-off at about 4am on Sunday and quickly swung into action.

He said: "Two rival cult groups fought and destroyed cars belonging to themselves and one person among them was injured...We have arrested five persons, we are at the gate right now, and we are in control".

As at the time of filing this report, several calls put to the University Public Relations Officer, Mr. Michael Olubor, Vice Chancellor, Prof. Eghosa Osaghae and Iguobazua Police Division, CSP, Effiong Bassey were unanswered.

It would be recalled that the Special Adviser to President Goodluck Jonathan, Kinsley Kuku at the 13th Anniversary and founder's Day lecture of Igbinedion University, said 208 ex-militants were admitted on Scholarship in the University courtesy of the federal Government Amnesty programme.