

News

Four killed in rival cult clash

Four persons were killed on Tuesday in Olobiri, Bayelsa, in a clash between two rival cult groups. The *News Agency of Nigeria* (NAN) reports that two other victims were also hospitalised, while property worth millions of naira were destroyed.

Deputy Gov. Peremob-
owe Ebebi, who visited the community, condemned the

atrocities unleashed by the suspected cultists.

He appealed to the chiefs and elders of Olobiri community to assist the police in fishing out the perpetrators of the act. The full weight of the law would take its course; the government would leave no stone unturned in bringing the culprits to book, Ebebi said. He appealed to those

who fled the community during the crisis to return home. He said government had beefed up security in the area to ensure the safety of lives and property.

A woman, identified as Mrs Inesi Igon, sustained gunshot wound on the neck.

Her son, whose name was given as Michael, has also been hospitalised at the Kolo General Hospital.

A community leader in Olobiri, Mr Amanda Francis, said the violent clash started in the early hours of Tuesday.

He conducted the deputy governor, the House of Assembly Speaker, Mr Seibarugu Werinipre and the member representing the community, Mr Nadu Karibo, round the area.

He said the community had yet to recover from the shock. The state's special duties commissioner, Mr

Ayebakuro Nelson, said four corpses were recovered, while two persons were

hospitalised and six houses burnt. He urged the government to ban the

activities of cultists in the area and restore peace to the community.



The permanent secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Hakeem Baba Ahmed (right) and Chief Adegboyega Ariyo after a meeting with the President at the State House, Abuja...recently
Pic Joe Oroye

Katsina expends N7bn on varsity project

The sum of N7bn has been expended by the Katsina state government on its university project, Governor Umaru Musa Yar'adua said.

The proposed university will have an independent source of funding to avoid running into financial problems, the governor told

From Lawal Ibrahim,
Katsina

Bayero University, Kano, because of its role in the provision of manpower needs of the state and the country at large.

The vice chancellor of BUK, Professor Attahiru Jega, while soliciting the state's assistance, said the