80 yr-old found dead on disputed land

From Leye Adewumi, Akure

AN 80 year old man, Pa Moses Ijashina, was at the weekend found dead in his farm which is part of a piece of land that has generated a protracted dispute between the Oyinmo Community in Ikare in Akoko North-East and Akungba Community in Akoko South-West of Ondo State.

Our correspondent learnt at the weekend that some unknown people killed the man in his farm on the disputed land.

The first son of the deceased, Mr. Bolorunduro Idowu Ijashina, alleged that his father was killed by people from a rival community.

"They removed his two eyes, his teeth, broke his head, shot him and cut all his body with cutlass", he said. It was gathered that in the morning of that day, when the deceased returned home from a prayer session, he gave some money to his son's wife to prepare him a meal.

He told the woman that he was leaving for the farm and would take the meal when he returned.

"At about 6.00pm, we went to look for him but we could not find him because it was already dark. We only found the clothes which he wore to the farm, his cutlass and some kola nuts he harvested. When we came back home, we informed the chiefs in our quarters that our father went to the farm but had not returned. In the morning of the following day (Saturday) we went to the farm again and found his dead body at the foot of a hill. He was killed on the hill top and brought down to the bottom. We went back home and reported to the chiefs that our father had been killed", the son said.

According to him, the matter was reported at Akungba Divisional Police headquarters. Police carried the corpse to the mortuary of Federal Medical Centre, Owo for autopsy.

When the Akungba youths learnt of the killing, they wanted to stage a protest but the chiefs appealed to them not to take the law into their hands, adding that the police and government had intervened.

It was learnt that the boundary dispute between the two communities had been reported to National Boundary Commission whose report is being awaited.