

residence of the traditional ruler
community.

The quick intervention of the police

RSSDA, Mr. Larry Pepple, were shot
dead.

were apprehended to meet the law
of the law.

brought to book.

3 killed, 20 arrested in cult war in Ondo

From Eugene Agha, Lagos

Three persons were said to have been killed in a clash between members of two rival cult gangs in Akure, Ondo State.

The gang war has raised fears and anxiety among residents in the area.

The fight, which reportedly commenced on Friday in the city, spread to neighbouring

communities, as fleeing and attacking cultists sought new battle grounds.

It was gathered that the mutilated body of one of the victims was found on Monday night at the NEPA roundabout in Akure.

Confirming the incident on Tuesday, the Ondo Police Public Relations Officer, Femi Joseph, said three people had died as a result of the crisis.

"About 20 suspects have been arrested and paraded this afternoon in connection with the skirmish as our men continue to pick them up around the state," Mr. Joseph said.

"We discovered that some of the suspects were ex-convicts who had been involved in some murder cases within the state.

"Some of them are helping

us in the investigations so far and we are doing our best to ensure that there are no further breaches of the peace."

He also confirmed that those who died in the mayhem were members of rival cult groups.

He, however, said despite the victims' roles in cult activities, it was still an offense for anyone to take the

life of another person.

He added that there were others who had to be screened to ascertain whether they were cultists or not.

"In the last 72 hours our men have been parading the nooks and crannies of the state to make sure no one creates any further problem and we have assured the people to go about their lawful businesses," he added.

invaded the community and shot many persons on sight.