

1 killed, houses razed in Kogi communal clash

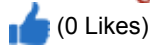
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One person has been killed and some houses razed in an ensuing clash between Kabawa community in Lokoja LGA and Onumaye community in Kogi/Koton-Karfe LGA over disputed fishing ponds and farmland.

The incident was said to have been ignited when some youths believed to be from Kabawa in Lokoja allegedly went to their farms on the island when some people believed to be from Onumaye village numbering over 100 and armed with cutlasses and other dangerous weapons attacked them and abducted two people.

It was learnt that when the news of the attack and abduction filtered into Kabawa village, the youths of the community allegedly went on rampage attacking anybody believed to be close to the chief of Onumaye who has been residing with them in the community.

In the ensuing rampage, one person identified as Baba Salisu was stabbed to death while some houses, including that of the chief of Onumaye, were torched.

The father of the deceased, Salihu Abdullahi urged the government and the security agents to bring the killers of his son to book while asking for quick resolution of the crisis.

Meanwhile, the Maigari of Lokoja, Alhaji Muhammadu Kabir Maikarfi III, has called on the warring parties to sheathe their swords and allow peace to reign.

He urged the people to allow security agencies to investigate the matter and bring the perpetrators to book.

When contacted, the Spokesman of the Kogi State Police Command, Mr Williams Aya, said his men were deployed there and had been able to bring the situation under control.