15 feared killed in fresh Ebonyi communal clash

From Nabob Ogbonna, **Abakiliki**

o fewer than 15 persons have reportedly lost their lives in a fresh which communal crisis. erupted on Saturday between the people of Ngbo and Ezza in the Nkwuada community in Ohaukwu Local Government Area of Ebonyi State.

It was gathered that the majority of those killed on Saturday were indigenes of Nkwuaba.

A native of Nkwuada, identified simply as Elizabeth told Daily Trust that the cause of the clash was the killing of a native of Nkwuada by the Ezza settlers.

She said the deceased was accused of having killed a cow

owned by an Ezza indigene.

She said, "The Ezza didn't wait to hear from the man (deceased) before they organised themselves and invited their warriors who went to his house and killed him in the night.

"The next day, the Ezza quickly sent out some elders among them who came and not less than 15 persons." calmed the elders of Nkwuada and promised to bring out the

perpetrators to face the law.

"But that did not happen, so the people of Ngbo the next day mobilised and attacked the people of Ezza in their settlement and the Ezza the next day (Saturday) mobilised their warriors and attacked the people of Nkwuada and killed

When contacted, the council chairman of the area, Clement

Odah, confirmed the incident, but did not give casualty figures.

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer in the state, SP Chris Anyanwu, said he was out of the state and had not been briefed of the development.

Also, the state Consultant on Internal Security, Stanley Emegha, when contacted, said he was out of the state and could not comment on the matter.

Activists forgian states others