

4 killed in renewed 'cult war' in Lagos

From Eugene Agha Lagos

Four suspected members of Aiye and Eiye confraternities were reportedly killed in series of bloody clashes at Ijanikin area of Lagos on Easter Sunday.

The deceased were killed during attacks and counter-attacks by members of both cult gangs during the Easter holidays.

The first victim was allegedly hacked down on Good Friday at Abule while the second was killed on Saturday.

The number of deaths recorded so far, according to some residents, had risen to about four as of Tuesday.

Several others also sustained machete cuts during the attacks. The continued killing has heightened tension in the area as residents now go about with fear; not knowing when the next attack would be unleashed.

Jimoh Adigun, a mechanic at Iyana Era bus stop, on the Mile 2 Badagry expressway, identified the first person to be killed as Taiwo.

"The deceased was trailed from Ashoribo to Era where he was killed. The police came hours later and evacuated the corpse," he said.

A senior police officer attached to Ijanikin Police Station who does not want to be named, however, said only two deaths were recorded in the attacks.

He said, one other victim was brutally wounded and might not survive from the kind of injuries inflicted on him.

"Only two persons died in the cult killings. It wasn't a war per se. What happened was that each gang will trail and corner a rival gang member where he would be killed," he said.

The Lagos State Police Public Relations Officer, Benjamin Hundeyin, said he was yet to be briefed by the Divisional Police Officer in charge of Ijanikin Division about the killing.