

2 killed over land dispute in Bayelsa

From Bassey Willie, Yenagoa

Two persons have been killed in a clash between Opolo and Okutukutu communities in Yenagoa, Bayelsa State capital over land ownership.

Some indigenes of Opolo told Daily Trust said the struggle for land demarcation between the two communities was a result of development that has been attracted to the areas because of the influx of people to Yenagoa,

the state capital.

The youth president of Okutukutu community, Kester Wilcox, told *Daily Trust* that the youths of Opolo attacked Okutukutu and destroyed property belonging to mostly non-indigenes, who mobilised themselves and retaliated.

He urged the warring communities to embrace peace.

The police spokesman in Bayelsa State, ASP Musa Muhammed, who confirmed the crisis, said

men from the tactical team of the command have been dispatched to the warring areas to restore order.

The Bayelsa State government confirmed the land dispute and loss of lives in the violent attack.

The deputy governor, Senator Lawrence Ewghrudjakpo, in a statement on Monday by his media aide, Mr Doubara Atasi, condemned the attack and directed relevant security agencies to fish out the perpetrators for prosecution.