

# Two feared dead in Ondo communal clash

**T**RAGEDY reared its ugly head at Ikare-Akoko in Akoko North-East Local Council of Ondo State as two families engaged each other in a bloody clash over a disputed piece of land, causing the death of at least two persons.

More than 20 people were also reported to have sustained various degrees of injury in the bloody clash in which property worth millions of naira were destroyed.

The fracas, which was said to have begun on Monday evening had also consumed no fewer than four houses reportedly set ablaze by irate youths of the town.

Already, the police had arrested 20 people from both sides and transferred them to the state command in Akure for interrogation. A unit of Anti-Riot policemen has been dispatched to Ikare Town to maintain peace.

Witnesses told *The Guardian* that the families Odoso and Igbede feuding over the land which spanned about eight kilometres had gone

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*From  
Julius Alabi, Akure*

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to court over the issue.

It was further learnt that the case was taken to the Supreme Court in February 2002 and won by one of the feuding families.

The *Olukare* of Ikare, Oba Akadiri Momoh, was also said to have intervened in the matter and resolved it between the families.

The recent fracas was said to have been caused by one of the families that sold the land to outsiders despite the Supreme Court judgment, which had given the disputed land to their rival.

Speaking with *The Guardian* on the issue yesterday, one Samuel Ajewole from Odoso said when they discovered that the people of Igbede had trespassed, "when-ever we challenge them (Igbede), they would attack us because they are more in number. But this time around, we resisted their attack so as to regain our land which they have almost sold

out".

The state Police Public Relation Officer (PPRO), Mr. Adeniran Aremu, said the area is calm after a unit of anti-riot policemen had been deployed in the area to maintain peace and order.

## PPA lauds candi

**N**ATIONAL Publicity Secretary of the Peoples Progressive Alliance (PPA), Lisa Olu Akerele, has lauded the verdict of the Federal High Court sitting in Kaduna which quashed the indictment of the party's presidential candidate, Dr. Orji Kalu and those of T. A. Orji, the PPA governorship candidate for Abia State and two others. He described the development as another ray of hope for the common man and ability of the judiciary to dispense justice impartially.

The Kaduna court presided over by Mr. Justice Abdullahi Liman quashed the report of the Administrative Panel of Inquiry that indicted the

**Elkiti group wants extensi**