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14 die in cult clash, accident

EIGHT persons have been confirmed killed in Obele Community in Emohua Local Council Area of Rivers State following a rival cult clash, just as six persons were killed in an accident involving a luxury bus.

Among the persons killed were a traditional ruler and the oldest man from the Omuwoka family in the community. He was beheaded by the cultist after several attempts to shoot him dead proved abortive.

An indigene of the area who spoke on condition of anonymity disclosed to The Guardian yesterday that the killing was as a result of the murder of a member of the cult group from Ibaa community.

It was gathered that most residents and indigenes of the community have fled the area, taking refuge at Elele town in Ikwere Local Council Area of the state.

It was also a dark Sunday in Benue State, as six persons perished in an accident involving a luxury bus travelling from Yola to Onitsha. The bus had a head-on collision with a Nissan Sunny Salon Car.

The accident occurred at about 9p.m. on Sunday night on the Gboko-Aliade road, near the popular Amaco Hotel in Gboko town, where the road has a depression that makes the area accident-prone.

An eyewitness told The Guardian that there was a big bang at about 9p.m., which was heard almost all over Gboko town.

Following the bang, residents trooped to the area, where rescue operations started immediately, with the residents assisting operatives of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), to evacuate the bodies and rescue passengers with varying degree of injuries.

It was learnt that the luxury bus, which was not conversant with the route, had run into a major depression on the road, and lost control.

The rescue operation was made easier by the Gboko Local Council, which moved a generator to the place to illuminate the area.

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