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Three feared dead in Edo cult clash

By Alemma-Ozioruva
Aliu, Benin City | 24
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am



Edo State Commissioner of Police Chris Ezike

No fewer than three persons have been reportedly killed in a renewed cult clash in Benin City, the Edo State capital. It was gathered that it was between

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Among the dead was a man simply identified as Papa Obodo who was reportedly killed by suspected cult members yesterday afternoon. Trouble was said to have started at a popular drinking bar on Sakponba road in the metropolis after a disagreement broke out between the groups on Sunday. It reportedly took a worrisome twist on Sunday night when some gunmen suspected to be cultists shot an unidentified man to death in the neighbourhood.

Also yesterday, two gunmen reportedly shot a man identified as Osaze at close range on Second East Circular road. The victim was said to have escaped from the suspected cult members' grip when they stormed his home in the neighbourhood. Witness said that the gunmen afterwards chased and fired at him.



“They (gunmen) first hit Osaze with machete on the head and later shot him to death. And the cultists was overheard chanting ‘one, one score-line’ after killing their victim,” the witness said.

He was said to be mourning his father whose remains are said to still be in the morgue. Confirming the incident, the Edo State Commissioner of Police Chris Ezike said the killing was as a result of the cold war between cult groups.

He noted that in June this year during a fight, a member of one of the groups was shot dead, saying that yesterday's killing was in retaliation for that. Ezike said the police were on top of the situation as some arrest have been made in

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connection to the killing, calling on parent to always monitor their wards so that they should not be used in cult wars.

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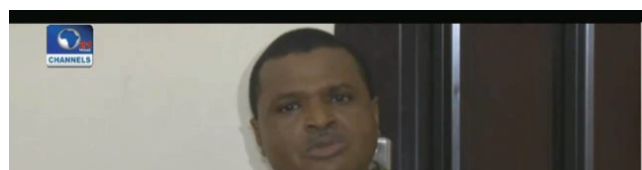
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