

Three feared dead in renewed cult clash in Edo

From Alemma-Ozioruva Aliu,
Benin City

ABOUT four persons are feared dead in several parts of Benin City, Edo State capital since Friday in a renewed cult clash.

It was gathered yesterday that suspected cultists set a man, simply identified as Osazuwa, on fire at Ozolua street, off First East Circular road in Benin City. The victim was reportedly shot at several times by his assailants before he was allegedly set on fire.

It was gathered that the assailants, eight in numbers, watched their victim burn before they took their leave.

Three persons have been killed since the ugly trend began with the killing of a man simply identified as Okpoko on Friday night.

Okpoko's killing was followed by the murder of Osazuwa on Sunday and a yet to be identified man, who was shot dead on Lucky Way, off Second East Circular Road in Benin City.

Okpoko, a textile dealer, was reportedly assassinated at his residence on Ogimwenken Street, off Upper Uwa road.

When contacted last night, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Moses Nkonbe, said he was not aware of the latest reported killings but that there have been reported cult-related killings in several parts of the state capital, adding that some persons have been arrested and investigation is ongoing, while those found culpable would be charged to court.