

One feared killed in fresh Ogbe-Ijoh, Aladja clash

From Chido Okafor, Warri

1. **T**HE protracted communal clashes between Ogbe-Ijoh in Warri-South West Local Council and Aladja in Udu Local Council over land reared its ugly head again yesterday as youths from both communities exchanged gunfire. The gun duel led to the death of one person while over six persons sustained injuries of varying degrees.

The Guardian gathered that the crisis started at about 10:00a.m. when Ogbe-Ijoh youths engaged the neighbouring Aladja in a gun battle. Despite the deployment of soldiers and policemen to strategic locations in the area, the youths reportedly opened a new front in another axis of the border and exchanged gunfire for several hours.

A source in Aladja confirmed that stray bullets hit six persons, while one died on the way to the hospital. The heavy shooting disrupted activities in both towns, as the Aladja Market and schools in the neighbourhood were forced to shut down while parents ferried their wards from school. Former President of Aladja Community Council, Tabuko Kbedje, told reporters that Ogbe-Ijoh people started the fight and Aladja Community was shocked at the attack.

Efforts to speak with the monarch of Ogbe-Ijoh, Pere Charles Oromoni were unfruitful, as all calls to his cell phone number were neither taken nor returned.

2. Cult war claims two lives in Bayelsa

From Julius Osahon, Yenagoa

TWO persons were killed yesterday as two rival cult groups engaged each other in a supremacy battle in some parts of Yenagoa, Bayelsa State capital. The clash, which occurred in Kpansia, Biogbolo and Yeneziguene areas of Yenagoa metropolis, caused fear and tension among residents.

The sporadic sound of gunshots between the rival cult