

Cult clash, mob attack kill seven in Bayelsa

By Julius Osahon,
Yenagoa

13 June 2019 | 3:28 am



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No fewer than five suspected cultists have been killed in renewed cult clashes in Yenagoa, Bayelsa State, in what observers described as a week of blood, violence, sorrow and tears.

While the suspects beheaded two young men following a battle of supremacy between the Greenlanders and Debam, also known as Bobos, three other persons were killed in different locations at Obele, Saint Peters Church and Swali in Yenagoa.

The Guardian learnt that the battle started with the killing of a senior member of the Bobos cult group by their rivals last Sunday.

He was reportedly murdered and his neck severed, after inflicting several machete cuts on him.

While a member of the rival cult group was hacked to death in front of a church on Swali Road, others were killed in Obele area during a clash between the combatants.

The killings have sent panic among residents, as most of them were sighted moving out of the troubled area, just as the boys were reportedly moving around with dangerous weapons.

A source confirmed that the killing of the Greenlanders leader was responsible for the renewed violence.

It was also gathered that the mayhem, which started on Obele Street and Saint Peter's Road Yenagoa, led to the killing of two boys at Akaba Community.

Besides, a mob action has claimed two armed robbers, one of whom was stoned to death in front of Seventh Day Adventist Church on Nikton Road, Kpansia.

He was chased by the angry mob to the front of the religious institution after robbing some residents on Samtax Road with two other gang members.

The second robber was beaten to death at Yenizuegene, along the Mbiama-Yenagoa highway, after he was caught snatching a lady's cell phone.

When contacted, Bayelsa State Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Asinim Butswat, confirmed the incidents, stating: "The police have responded by carrying out repeated raids on black spots and strategising to apprehend the leaders."

Meanwhile, the Amazor Community in Ekeremor Local Council of the state has urged Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) to respect the September 11, 2018



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resolution reached between it and some polluted communities.

The parties had reached an agreement in respect of the Trans Ramos Pipeline Oil Spillage of May 17 and 18, 2018 that devastated Amazor and its neighbours on River Ramos.

A statement issued by Chief Gari Suwa disclosed that the call was in response to SPDC's invitation of some selected communities to discuss compensation.

He said the alleged invitation was to truncate and pre-empt the PSIA and Damage Assessment already concluded by NOSDRA and which SPDC was involved in December 2018.



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