

Cultists kill student, five others in Benue

From Joseph Wantu, Makurdi

FEAR gripped residents of Gboko town and North Bank communities in Makurdi, yesterday, following the killing of six people in a clash of rival cult groups.

In the clash, four of their members were killed in Gboko town, while one died in Makurdi.

This is even as another person was reported killed in North Bank area along the junction of Joseph Sarwuan Tarka University, Makurdi.

It was gathered that two cult groups in Gboko had engaged in a supremacy battle of who controls the area, which resulted in the said casualties.

An eyewitness, who preferred anonymity, said the cult war started on Wednesday night between

the rival groups, resulting to the killing of three at Gbar-Mkar in Gboko east, while a 21-year old boy. Mr. Vershima Bendega aka Ter Kwande was allegedly killed at Gboko central, bringing the total number of those killed in the town to four.

When newsmen visited the house of one of the victim at N010, Iorkyaa Ako street, Gboko central, where the incident took place. A bereaved uncle, Mr. Celestine Bendega confirmed the

killing of his younger brother.

He said: "Yesterday, around 1:00 a.m., we heard loud banging on the door, when I peeped from my room, I saw over 20 hoodlums with machetes and axes hitting somebody on the ground. After confirming that the macheted person was dead, they moved from door to door collecting monies and handsets including mine.

"When we came out later we saw my younger brother,

Vershima Bendega popularly known as Ter Kwande, a student of Akperan Orshi Polytechnic, Gboko macheted to death.

"I couldn't identify any of the attackers because it was dark and they were very hostile. The truth is that these guys came for their target."

The state police image maker, Catharine Sewuese Anene, who confirmed the deaths, said three persons have been arrested in connection with the incidents.

Deceased soldier's family demands son's

From Isa Abdulsalami Ahovi, Jos

FAMILY members of the late Army Corporal, Moses James, who died in active service in the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone

(UNAMSIL), on July 30, 2002 have called on the Chief of Army Staff (COAS), Lt-General Farouk Yahaya to pay them their son's allowances.

Their demand was first addressed to the late COAS,

who died in a plane crash on May 21, 2021, Lt-General Ibrahim Attahiru.

After his death, the request was made to the new COAS for implementation.

The family members, who