

Two killed, others injured in renewed Aladja/Ogbe-Ijoh communal clash in Delta

By **Monday Osayande, Asaba**

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There was tension in Aladja Community of Udu Council and Ogbe-Ijoh Community of Warri South West Local Council of Delta State, following the killing of a 40-year-old Efe America at Aladja, and a 29-year-old female wedding guest at Ogbe-Ijoh.

The two persons were reportedly shot dead in a renewed hostilities between the two communities.

The Guardian gathered that several other persons sustained various degrees of injuries because of the land disputes, which spanned over 27 years.

A community source said a popular Udje Dancer, and Mr Robinson Onokahweri, an Olomu indigene, are among of four victims receiving treatment at an undisclosed hospital.

According to a source, Aladja alleged that gunmen from Ogbe-Ijoh attacked them at about 11:a.m. on Saturday, while another source said a leader from Ogbe-Ijoh accused Aladja of being the mastermind of the recent shooting.

“In the morning when we were going about our normal daily businesses, we heard gun attack from Ighwre, the road leading to Okotomu otherwise called Ogbe-Ijoh.

“Our President quickly put a call to security agents to alert them of the attack, the police responded swiftly but Major Solomon didn’t only come to shoot at us but also instructed his junior officers to block the road, so that those shot could not be taken to hospital for treatment,” the source added.

However, the President General of Aladja Community, Prince Ibrahim Dumuje, thanked the Base Operation Officer (BOO) of the Nigerian Naval Service, Delta State, for his quick response to the distress call, which helped to stop escalation of the attack.

Dumuje, who spoke through the President of the Community, Comrade Shell-Okakotu Godfirst, said: “The left flank had been demarcated by the Delta State Government under former Governor Ifeanyi Okowa. However, it seems the State Government is foot dragging, which is giving the room for the frequent attacks on us by Ogbe-Ijoh people. “

But, reacting to the development, Chief Monday Keme, the Principal Secretary to the Pere of Ogbe-Ijoh, said : “A week and five days ago, two suspects from Aladja at a very close range shot two students, who are still in the hospital receiving treatment.