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Illushi community crisis claims one

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UNEASY Calm now pervades Illushi community in Esan South East Local Government Area of Edo State following violent clashes that have claimed one life.

Daily Independent gathered that the clashes were occasioned by disagreements between two rival groups over collection of market revenue in the community.

A group allegedly backed by the clan head of the community, Chief Ike Ikebode, investigation revealed, is being resisted by some youths led by the community youth leader, Mr. Jonathan Mawa.

After series of confrontations, it was learnt that one of the groups allegedly mobilized cultists from neighbouring community to invade Illushi with dangerous weapons, leading to the death of one Abiodun Ojobor and injuring several others.

The community youth leader, Jonatha Mewa alleged that one the sons of the clan head, Christopher Ikebode, now at large, was responsible for the killing.

He appealed to the state Commissioner of Police and the authorities of the local government council to provide adequate security for the community, expressing fears that the invaders could return.

Meanwhile, Daily Independent gathered that the clan head, Ikabode, now resides in an unknown place outside the community for alleged fear of reprisal attack from the aggrieved community youths.

Contacted for comments, the secretary to Esan South East Local Government Area, Mr. Solomon Oyedo, said those collecting market revenue at Illushi Market were acting illegally.

He condemned the murder, saying no one has the right to take the life of another, and assured that the council will work with the police to bring the perpetrators to justice.

The Esan Area Commander, overseeing the community, Mr. Chris Kanene, confirmed the incident and disclosed that five suspects had been arrested in connection with the crisis.

He however said the situation had been brought under control following the intervention on his command.

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