

Nine feared killed in Bayelsa communal clash

NINE people were feared killed at the weekend when a house was set ablaze at Egweama, Bayelsa State during a clash. The Liama community was said to have defied naval presence to attack Egweama even as the government sent more troops to enforce peace in the area.

The state Deputy Governor, Mr. Premobowei Ebebi who visited the troubled communities pleaded with them to

From Isaac Gombe,
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stop hostilities to allow for the government's intervention.

The two communities' offensive started at the weekend when youths clashed.

Egweama had more casualties as a house was burnt and about nine persons were reportedly killed and several others had severe gun-shot wounds.

Of the nine persons allegedly killed, only two bodies

were found in Egweama. Others were said to be missing. Also at Liama, some were killed while others were still missing as at press time.

The fighting between the two communities, who are of the same ancestral lineage, is over Emerald Oil Company whose location is in-between a land belonging to the two communities.

Some prominent personalities in Brass community are allegedly behind the crisis to

gain control of the royalty accruing from the Company, says unconfirmed sources.

Narrating the community's ordeal, Chief MA Woripaga, who is the Secretary, Egweama Council of Chiefs, said for long, there had been a problem between Egweama and Liama communities. But the recent one, according to him, was as a result of the beating up of some youths escorting a boat belonging to the company.