

13 killed in Rivers clashes

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IN A renewed conflict in Kula, Akuku Toru Local Government Area of Rivers State, about 13 persons may have died.

The Nation gathered that the victims were killed in three clashes on Sunday night; two on Monday and eight yesterday.

Sources attributed the renewed fighting to the disagreement among the people of the community over the formula in sharing oil royalty.

As the elders and the youths could not reach a compromise on the sharing formula, a youth leader perceived to be spear-heading the protest from the youths was ostracised.

To stage a come-back to his community, the youth leader and his supporters early in January allegedly ambushed some chiefs who were travelling by boat from Port Harcourt to their village on the weekend break and killed all of them.

Amongst those killed was Chief Opusunji, a prominent politician in the state.

Those who lost their relatives in that attack "are not relenting because they want to avenge for the lives of those people."

This has resulted to frequent break-out of attacks and counter-attacks since then.