

Owu chief, three others feared dead in clash

NO fewer than four persons were feared dead at the weekend in another violence in Atan, a disputed land between Awori and Owu people in Ado-Odo/Ota Local Government Area of Ogun State.

The incident occurred on Saturday while some Owu indigenes were waiting for the arrival of their royal father, the Olowu, Oba Adegboyega Olusanya Dosunmu.

Some aggrieved Awori youths had allegedly attacked those waiting for the arrival of Olowu.

It was gathered that among those who died in

\$15m EXIM lifeline for Wema Bank

By **Bunmi Ogunmodede**

A\$15 MILLION lifeline from the Export Import (EXIM) Bank in the United States (US) has come the way of Wema Bank Plc. The facility is to boost the bank's service delivery to its customers.

The gesture, announced by the USEXIM Bank representative, Mr. Thomas Matthias, followed the appointment of Wema as one of the USEXIM banks in the country.

Expectedly, the deal would boost economic relations between the US and Nigeria as well as create more opportunities for Nigerian entrepreneurs and businesses desiring to do business with the US.

According to Matthias, the new relationship would promote mutual benefits to both banks.

Matthias, who with Wema Bank's Group Managing Director (GMD), Adebisi Omoeni, said both parties

From **Femi Shodunke**,
Abeokuta

the clash included an Owu chief, Adedotun Sowole and Adebayo Sowole.

The latter's father was said to have been installed as the Baale of Iyana-Iyesi in Ota late last year by Oba Dosunmu, an action which led to a protest by the Awori. They are laying claims to the land being occupied by the Owu-installed coronets.

Also feared dead were Alasi Olorunda and Taiwo Amos. About 20 persons have been arrested by the police.

The Police spokesman, Deputy Superintendent Olufemi Awoyale confirmed the number of deaths and arrests.

Eyewitness told *The Nation* that the Baales (village heads) and coronet royal fathers appointed by Oba Dosunmu had waited for

the arrival of Olowu, who was scheduled to meet them when they were attacked.

The attack may not be unconnected with the agitation over the right of Awori to install obas in the disputed areas which they claimed belong to them.

They alleged that Oba Dosunmu had no authority to expand his frontiers beyond his kingdom to Aworiland, to which they

claimed some of them belonged to them.

Crisis engulfed the communities where Oba Dosunmu installed coronet obas, and the weekend attack was linked to the agitation of the Awori over the installation.

As of 10.30 am on Sunday, no fewer than three persons were shot dead when 11 gunmen invaded Atan, while several others were injured.

Fire kills three Ogun college students

From **Femi Shodunke**,
Abeokuta

THREE female students of the Federal College of Education, (FCE), Osiele, Abeokuta in Ogun State yesterday lost their lives in

an early morning inferno.

The institution's authorities have shut the college as angry colleagues of the

deceased geared up for a riot.

The fire, which started around 4.30 am was said to have been caused by power surge from the Power

Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN).

Sources said the three students were the only occupants of Room 17, Block E of the female hostel when the fire started.

Their colleagues had traveled for the weekend.

Though the college authorities could not confirm the identities of the students, their mates gave their names as Esther (pre-NCE Agricultural Science), Ajayi (200 level Primary Education Study) and Olatunbosun (PES/Yoruba).

The Nation learnt that the hostel porter who first noticed the fire, raised alarm which attracted the male students and staffers who reside on the campus.

Sources said that many more students would have been consumed in the fire if not that majority of them had traveled.

But efforts to save the lives of the three students failed as they were roasted before help could reach them from their fellow students and men of the fire service who came later around 6 am, two hours after the inferno started.



• **Alhaji Akinola (left) and Fashola...yesterday**

Chief Imam, others pray for AC man Fashola

• 'Candidate eulogises family at reunion

By **Emmanuel Oladesu**

THE descendants of the legendary Muslim trader and philanthropist, the late Sheikh Sunmonu Animashaun yesterday, held a prayer ses-

In attendance were family members, including Chief Babs Animashaun, Alhaji Biliaminu Fashola,

members for their support.

"I thank God for being born into this family. Some were born into dubious families. But, I am born into a great family," Fashola