

Poly rector denies death of students

THE Federal Polytechnic, Auchi, Edo State yesterday denied claims that several of its students died last week in a cult-related crisis.

Its Rector, Sir Louis Aikhagbonsun said instead of a clash, some students renounced cultism, which he said, had almost fizzled out of the polytechnic.

On the strategies used to tackle cultism in the school, he said: "I got ex-students who were cultists but now occupying important posi-

**From Festus Ogagah,
Benin**

tions in public and private sectors to talk to the students, mostly new students who are innocently recruited.

"Everybody including the Otaru of Auchi was represented, some good ex-students, some of who are big boys in companies and seen as role models addressed the students telling them that they are here to learn.

"Within the campus,

there are no cults. But outside the school in the satellite towns like Sabo there may be some cultists who join the groups due to youthful exuberance. We involved vigilante groups to help check their activities.

Since my assumption of office on February 1, this year, I directed lecturers to send anybody who is not well dressed home so that next time he or she will not dress like that again," he said.