

Two killed in Rivers

A CHIEFTAINCY tussle in Ibaa town, Emohua local council of Rivers State has reportedly claimed two lives.

One of the victims was identified as a member of the community's vigilance group, Mr Chukwudi Chimara.

Trouble started at the weekend when suspected supporters of one of the contenders to the royal stool, attacked the home of the chairman of the community's vigilance group, Mr. Fyनेface Agbaeso.

Agbaeso's home and his property were destroyed even as injuries were inflicted on some members of his family.

Community sources said, apart from Chimara, who was shot dead, the attackers who were said to be carrying sophisticated arms attacked several houses owned by persons known to be opposed to their leader and wounded many in the process.

In a reaction, the vigilance group mounted strong surveillance along all exits and bush tracks in the town and tracked down one of the suspected killers as he was trying to escape. His name was given as Henry Ayo.

It was also reported that Ayo died as a result of torture by the angry vigilance group and that he made confessional statements before he passed on.

~~However, Chairman of~~ the local council, Mr. Emeka Woke, has said that despite the conflict, relative peace had returned to the town as a result of the deployment of men of the Joint Military Task Force to the area, adding that he had ordered the Rumuji police station to begin investigation on the matter as well as to beef up security in the town to avoid any further violence.