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## 10 killed in Akwa Ibom mayhem

 By [Iniobong Ekponta](#) | Published 21/01/2010 | [News](#) | Unrated

At least 10 people were killed yesterday in a mayhem involving two communities in Oron Local Government of Akwa Ibom State.

The state is to set up a Judicial Commission of Enquiry to look into the remote and immediate causes of the attack on the people of Afaha Eduok and Idua Ukpa.

No fewer than 40 houses were razed in the fracas with property worth N60million destroyed.

Governor Godswill Akpabio visited the scene and ordered the arrest of youth leaders from the two communities.

He also ordered the Commissioner of Police, Mr. Walter Rugbere, to arrest the village heads of Udung Ulo and Udung Usotai "for their inability to control youths in their domains".

Akpabio, who condemned the attack, noted: "I view this seriously and condemn it in its entirety.

"I want to meet with the village heads of the warring communities to know why disciplinary action should not be taken against them".

He disclosed that a Judicial Commission of Enquiry is to be set up to look into the remote and immediate causes of the attack on the people of Afaha Eduok and Idua Ukpa in Oron.

He noted that the inability of the Plateau State Government to nip in the bud a similar crisis that erupted in Jos a year ago has led to incessant killing of more people this year.

His words: "We cannot allow this problem to happen here. We must bring all the perpetrators to book."

On allegation that Oron Local Government chairman has not visited the area since the attack nor sent relief materials to the victims, Akpabio said: "I won't comment on the ineptitude of the chairman or otherwise. During electioneering campaign, I summoned a meeting of all stakeholders in Oron to pick a suitable chairmanship candidate.

"Pastor Onyong Asukwo, now Commissioner for Rural Development came with 300 youths and said Oron would burn if we refuse his candidate. I won't blame anybody but the commissioner."

He, however, thanked the Idua Ukpa and Afaha Eduok people for not retaliating.

Akpabio pledged to compensate and resettle the victims.

The clan head-elect of Idua, Chief Edet N. Ekeng, said more than 300 persons have been rendered homeless and about 40 houses burnt.

Ekeng blamed the attack on the council chairman, Victor Ini Okon, for refusing to fund a committee set up months ago, resulting in the inability of the committee to turn in its report last May.

The village head of Idua Ukpa, Chief Okon Atanang, said he has spent about N300,000 in assisting the victims and accused Okon of not visiting nor sending relief materials.

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