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19 missing in fresh Kogi, Anambra border clash

Posted by: Nwanosike ONU, Awka in News April 20, 2013 15 Comments

No fewer than 19 people were missing in the latest clash between Aguleri, in Anambra East Local Government Area of Anambra State and Echonwa in Kogi State.

A total of 22 buildings were also burnt in the Okpeze community in two nights of tussle over the ownership of oil wells on the boundary of the two states.

Okpeze residents said yesterday that heavily armed invaders swooped on them on Wednesday and Thursday nights, shooting indiscriminately.

The invaders, according to the residents, then proceeded to set some of their houses ablaze.

As the occupants of the houses made to flee, the invaders pounced on them and took them to yet unknown destinations.

One Mrs. Martha Nweke said her husband was among those taken away by the invaders.

Amidst sobs, she said: "We were asleep when suddenly we heard gunshots from different directions.

"Confusion ensued as many people ran out of their homes into the bush half naked. Children cried as the invaders dragged their fathers away.

"Those who escaped slept in the bush and, in the morning, we discovered that many houses were either burnt or looted.

"I thought my husband ran into the bush with others, but when he did not appear in the morning, we knew that he was among those that were kidnapped.


"We are worried because these invaders had boasted in the past that they would continue to kill and eat our people.

"We want our state governor, Mr. Peter Obi, and the Federal Government to step into this matter without further delay to save us from this trauma.

"We are just beginning to settle down after last year's floods destroyed our homes and crops, but here we are again facing this attempt to sack us from our community by Kogi people because oil was discovered in our land."

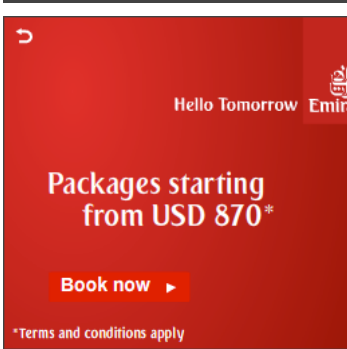
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Sequel to the invasion, the people of Aguleri have sent a save-our-soul message to the Federal Government as well as the governments of Anambra and Kogi states, to intervene immediately to avoid further loss of lives.

The Police authorities have decided to deploy more men in the troubled area to restore peace.

The move drew applause yesterday from the Anambra State Government.

The Secretary to the Anambra State Government (SSG), Mr. Oseloka Obaze, in a statement, said the development would go a long way in dousing the heightened tension in the area.

He said: "Anambra and Kogi states' authorities will continue to work assiduously to bring the present restiveness along their common border under control.

"They are gratified by the continued moral and organizational support being offered by the federal authorities and the security agencies.

"The recent decision by the Inspector-General of Police to deploy police units in the buffer zone between the conflicting communities is acknowledged and appreciated.

"The gesture will go a long way in calming frayed nerves and contain the activities of youths from both sides who are hell bent on taking the law into their hands."



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15 COMMENTS



Emeka
April 20, 2013 at 6:25 am

When lion wil wake up let no man run.

Reply



JOE
April 20, 2013 at 7:19 am

Kogi people should be careful. let them go and ask about Aguleri people before they dig their own grave.

Reply



odiba
May 22, 2013 at 1:04 pm

emeka,who do u think is a lion between igala and igbo? watch ur mouth.

Reply



Coco-Bassey, Esu
April 20, 2013 at 6:52 am

unfortunately,d politicians from both state will used to ignorant youth to kill themselves inn d name of oil ownership while their families are at dubai enjoying. D FG was sharp to announce d discovery of oil in d name of politics without allowing boundary and demarcation commission to tell nigerians d owner of oil and those who share in boundries and how it will benefit d affected states who share in location and delivery,when we continue to b insincere and unpatrotics in our dealings d masses always suffer and that is it affecting d poor

Reply



Political
April 20, 2013 at 7:10 am

I don't know why an average Igbo man is too weak to defend his or her in case catastrophe. It baffles me to read or hear all this outcry and lamentations every by day. It is better that you people should face reality, cos police will protect you people. In nig 80% of Nig Npf is Hausaman .

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justin

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