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Three killed in communal crisis

Posted by: Okungbowa Aiwerie, Asaba in News April 25, 2013 0

Three persons have been killed and scores injured in Koko, headquarters of Warri North Local Government of Delta State, following a leadership tussle by rival youth groups.

Some of the victims are receiving treatment at the Koko General Hospital.

An eyewitness, Tony Timokpe, said shops, schools and markets were closed while social activities have been paralysed.

The Nation gathered that the two groups, which were involved in the leadership tussle could not reach a compromise, prompting intervention by elders of the community.

Following this development, an interim committee, headed by Victor Buwa, was inaugurated by the elders to pilot the affairs of the youths for 90 days.

The Buwa-led interim committee, it was gathered, refused to relinquish power after the expiration of its mandate.

A victim, Luke Komeni, said: "I was walking in the street when a stray bullet hit my right arm.

"I don't belong to any of the groups. By the grace of God, I am responding to treatment."

A source said 30 persons were arrested at various locations in the community.

He said many youths have fled the community for fear of being arrested.

Police spokesman Lucky Uyabeme said he was away on an official assignment, adding that the command was unaware of the incident.

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