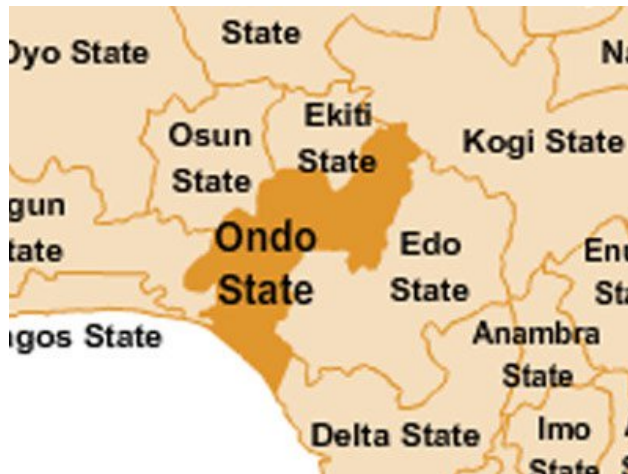


Akeredolu intervenes as soldier shoots pupil dead in Ondo

Posted By: [Damisi Ojo](#) On: June 22, 2018 In: [News](#), [News Update](#)

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A 13-year-old schoolboy of Community Primary School at Ajowa in Akoko Northwest Local Government Area of Ondo State, Usman Saliu, has reportedly been shot dead “in error” by a soldier.

The incident happened while some Fulani were displaying acrobatics with sticks and cutlasses.

The scene, eyewitnesses said, became rowdy, leading to disorderliness.

The soldiers were reportedly attracted from a nearby checkpoint.

It was learnt that the schoolboy was mistakenly shot dead.

Another Fulani, Badejo Abudulahi, was also hit by bullets; he is receiving treatment at Ikare Specialist Hospital.

It was learnt that residents of Ajowa-Akoko remained indoor yesterday as tension mounted on the unusual appearance of soldiers in their community.

They were also said to be afraid of possible revenge by Fulani herdsmen.

Policemen from Oke-Agbe Division reportedly took the body to a mortuary while the injured was also admitted for treatment.

It was learnt that on hearing about the incident, Governor Oluwarotimi Akeredolu mandated his Special Adviser on Security Matter, Alhaji Jimoh Dojumo, and Special Assistant on Hausa/Fulani Matters, Bala Umaru, to resolve the matter.

At Ajowa, the father of the deceased, Usman Saliu, 46, said his son was returning from school when the incident occurred.

The distraught father described his late son as an asset.

On behalf of the governor, Dojumo urged the parents to take the incident as an act of God because it was not deliberate.

He added that the situation was incidental and regrettable.

Akeredolu urged the residents to embrace peace, saying only peaceful co-existence would attract development to the state.

The Akoko Area Commander of the police, Razak Rauf, hailed the Fulani for embracing peace and shunning confrontation.

He assured them of peaceful resolution of the matter.

A Senior Army Officer from the 32 Artillery Brigade in Akure, Lt.-Col. Ejiga said the soldier who fired the shot had no intention to kill anyone.

He called for more understanding on the roles of military to maintain law and order.

Ejiga apologised on behalf of the Army.

The Chairman of Akoko Northwest Local Government Area, Morakinyo Ajayi said security agents had settled the matter.

He also hailed the governor for his concern about the welfare of the residents.