

Rep, police sergeant shot dead, 11 others killed

• Two beheaded

From Bisi Oladele, Ibadan/Bassey Anthony, Uyo/Bisi Olaniyi, Deborah Sunday, Port Harcourt/Damisi Ojo, Akure

Two others were killed at Oba-Akoko, headquarters of Akoko Southwest local government area of Ondo State in the aftermath of an attempt by hoodlums to snatch a ballot box.

Olatoye who was the senatorial candidate of the African Development Party (ADP) in Oyo Central in last month's election was attacked by a band of thugs at Elesu village in Ward 13, Lalupon, Lagelu Local Government Area of the state where he had gone to vote.

A bullet was said to have hit him in the eye and was subsequently rushed to the hospital only to die moments after arriving the UCH.

Spokesman for the Nigerian Police, Mr. Frank Mba said last night that the force had commenced investigation into the matter.

The alleged ballot box snatcher in Akwa Ibom State, according to eye witnesses, had

already taken hold of the box and was running away with it when soldiers opened fire on him.

The incident happened at Ikot Udo Ossiom village in Ukanafun Local Government area.

It was gathered that the suspect made his first attempt in the morning but was resisted by soldiers.

He returned later in the day and this time almost succeeded in his mission until the soldiers shot him.

Two killed in Ondo for alleged ballot box snatching

Another attempt to snatch ballot boxes at Oba-Akoko, headquarters of Akoko Southwest local government area of Ondo State also claimed two lives.

Community sources said some hoodlums had stormed the community with a view to snatching ballot boxes.

The development sparked a protest by youths, which soon got out of hand with youths destroying property including a police station and vehicles, estimated at million of naira.

Two persons were shot to death in the ensuing melee.

A third person hit by bullets was rushed to the hospital for treatment.

The police subsequently arrested 21 persons for alleged breach of peace.

A ballot box was however snatched at Araromi Area, Agbaluku, Arigidi-Akoko which led to disruption of election in the area.

The Police Area Commander for Ikare-Akoko, Razak Rauf, an Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) who led a contingent of police to the town to make peace, described the destruction of police property as barbaric.

He said investigation had commenced while culprits would be arrested and brought to book.

Six killed in Rivers, two of them beheaded

Six people were killed by gunmen in Khana (Ogoni) Local Government Area of Rivers State, during the elections.

Two of the victims were beheaded.

One of the victims, Micheal

Abedinigo, from Upatabo, was stabbed to death at Akinima, headquarters of Ahoada West LGA of Rivers State by thugs.

Reports from Buguma and Isiokpo said thugs went on the rampage throwing dynamites into people's homes and cars.

The development scared a lot of people from going out to vote.

The Chief Security Officer (CSO) of Khana LG council, Letam Kinee, speaking on a radio programme in Port Harcourt described the killing of innocent persons as sad and shocking.

Kinee called on security agencies to apprehend and prosecute the killers, in order to serve as a deterrent to other criminals.

Election observer shot dead in Enugu

A man described as an election observer was allegedly killed by a stray bullet from a policeman at Umuida community, Enugu Ezike, Igbo-Eze north local government area of Enugu State.

The victim whose name was given as Osondu Odu was hit in the head by a bullet from a police officer stationed close to the residence of a politician in the area.

Ebere Amarizu, spokesman

of the Enugu police command, confirmed the incident to journalists.

He attributed it to "accidental discharge".

The man was said to have had a confrontation with the policeman at a polling unit metres away from Eze's residence.

However, police spokesman, Frank Mba said last night that that the victim was not an election observer.

A Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) agent was similarly shot dead by suspected thugs in Eziana Obire in Nkwere local government area of Imo State.

Gunmen open fire on polling unit in Delta

Gunmen also swooped on polling units in Ughelli South local government area of Delta State leaving one man dead.

Several other people were wounded.

The dead man was attacked at Iwhrekan community.

PDP decries killings, violence, 'militarisation of elections'

Reacting to the situation last night, the opposition Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) condemned what it called the heavy militarisation, violence and killing of innocent Nigerians during the elections.

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