

Communal clash looms in Osun as gunmen kill one over land dispute



There is tension at Ilobu and Ifon communities in Irepodun and Orolu local governments of **Osun State**, as gunmen yesterday killed one person over an age-long land dispute.

It will be recalled that the two communities have been at loggerheads over land, resulting in the death of several persons and loss of belongings last year and early this year.

It was gathered that a farmer identified as Sikiru Onaolapo went to his farm and was killed at Oke Ekutu area, which is part of the disputed area. The body was taken to the palace of Olobu of Ilobu.

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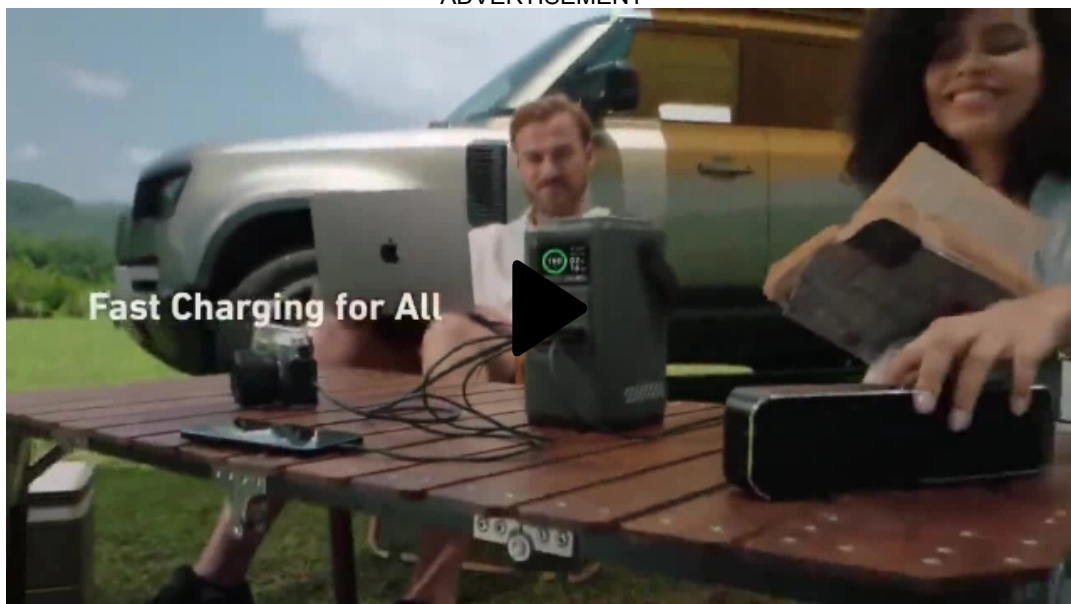
Residents called for the intervention of Governor Ademola Adeleke.

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The Otun-Jagun of Ilobu, Chief Leke Ogunsola, said: “Sikiru Onaolapo was the victim. He was from Olobo compound. He went to his farm at Oke Ekutu this morning and was shot dead.”

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Ogunsola said security operatives should investigate and arrest the perpetrators.

The Secretary, Board of Trustees, Ifon-Orolu Progressives Union, Jide Akinyooye, denied the allegation that an Ifon indigene killed the farmer. He said: "Investigation should be carried out into the incident. Some people have been visiting the disputed land, which has been acquired by Osun State Government. Our king has warned his subjects against going to the area."

Police spokesperson Yemisi Opalola did respond to the calls and text messages sent to her phone at press time.