

# News

## VIOLENCE ERUPTS IN IFE-OLUKOTUN OVER CHIEFTAINCY MATTER

A VIOLENT clash has erupted in Ife-Olukotun town in Kogi, claiming several lives amidst maiming, arson and destruction of property, including a police station.

Chief Henry Ojuola, representing the area in the state House of Assembly, reported the outbreak of hostilities Friday during the day's plenary sitting.

He said that the violence was believed to have been triggered by the controversy generated over a second-class chieftaincy stool.

He noted that the hostilities had forced many residents of the area to flee and seek refuge in neighbouring towns and villages.

Ojuola noted that the mobile policemen drafted to the community to quell the uproar appeared helpless, as the battle became more fierce and re-

corded more casualties.

He also said that traditional rulers mobilised to the area to broker a truce were beaten and chased away by the warring factions.

In a motion of Urgent Public Importance, the legislator called on the state government to set up a panel of inquiry to investigate the immediate and remote causes of the crisis.

Ojuola also called on the government to convene a meeting of stakeholders in the community as part of efforts to resolve the crisis.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that the Speaker of the House, Hon. Suleiman Adawari-Usman, has inaugurated a six-man d-hoc committee to look into the crisis.

The committee is expected to submit its report to the House within the next two weeks.

## Sultan Sa'ad's