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Cultists kill 10 in Benin

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NO fewer than 10 persons were at the weekend killed in Benin by cultists who went on rampage in parts of the ancient city.

Areas mostly affected were Erediauwa Street, off Upper Sokponba Road, where two people were killed, New Benin and Okhoro, where two people were also assassinated.

Among those killed were a leader of the Odua Peoples Congress (OPC) whose name was given as Victor and a commercial bus driver.

The OPC leader and the commercial bus driver were reportedly shot and killed at close range by armed men, operating in broad daylight at Uwelu and New Benin areas of Benin respectively.

Another victim was a popular car wash owner at Upper Mission Road area of the city and one Jude.

It was learnt that the multiple attacks started on Friday and that the clash was between three rival cult groups.

One of the cult groups was said to have first struck at Upper Sakponba before some of its members in New Benin clashed with another cult group in the area.

The fight, it was gathered, spilled over to Okhoro area within few hours after it was lunched in New Benin.

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer of the Edo State Police Command, DSP Joseph Edogiawerie, confirmed the attacks.

He further stated that police have arrested some suspects since the attacks broke out.

He assured residents of Benin of adequate police protection of lives and property during and after the Yuletide period.

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