



From left, Governor Abiola Ajimobi of Oyo State; president and chairman of the Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria (CIBN), Chief (Mrs) Debola Osibogun and the Registrar of the council, Mr Seye Awojobi, during a courtesy visit to the governor, in Ibadan, on Wednesday. PHOTO: NAN.

Hoodlums clash at Oja'ba area in Ibadan

TUNDE OGUNESAN

HOODLUMS around Oja'ba area in Ibadan, on Monday, held the residents to ransom as two anonymous groups attacked themselves, leaving three people dead.

But the Oyo State police command said only one person died.

Nigerian Tribune gathered that trouble started on Tuesday evening, when one of the groups tagged as 'Idowu boys' was hell bent on retaliating an assault which reportedly led to the death

of one of its group members by the unnamed group. This, sources confided in *Nigerian Tribune*, led to laying ambush on the opposing group with the help of another group named Zaccheus boys, around Gege Adero, Ibadan.

The boys, it was gathered relied heavily on broken bottles during the Tuesday evening attack while by Wednesday morning, it had metamorphosed into using sophisticated weapons.

Early callers around the area scammed for safety

on Wednesday, as the battle had degenerated into the group members' chasing themselves into the inner compounds within the community.

The presence of policemen and other security agencies with armoured tanks, doused the tension.

The hoodlums were said to be brandishing sophisticated weapons in a brave manner that actually forced some business ventures to close down shops for some hours.

Unconfirmed sources in-

formed that three people had died while several others sustained various degrees of injuries.

An eyewitness, who spoke with the *Nigerian Tribune* said "we don't know what actually caused the crisis. We learnt they started by Tuesday evening, attacking themselves with broken bottles. But this morning, it has graduated into gun fighting.

"We're hooked here and unable to display our wares since morning. This is terrible," the source noted.

But another source said that "six people had been killed so far."

"The casualty is up to six because we heard some of them saying it is four against two now." According to him, "we however don't know the group they're fighting as at now."

When contacted, the Public Relations officer of Oyo State Police Command, Adekunle Ajisebutu, though confirmed the incident, but said only one person died.

Ajisebutu said, "Only one person died. The Commissioner of Police has ordered 24-hour security coverage of the affected areas with a view to protecting lives and property. Some arrests have been made. Normalcy has returned as the police warn against acts causing breach of public peace."

himself as a king following a resolution at its plenary on Tuesday.

Suraj and Asefon stated that such action could "further exacerbate the already tense situation in the town."

were accessed by NAPSS included the Talent Discovery Centre Hall, the Wema Bank ATM machine at the Wema Bank premises in the school, four food cafeterias and

condemned the students' action. The NAPSS president, Comrade Michael, described the act of the erring students as "barbaric and an act of wickedness from the pit of hell."