

7 feared killed in Rivers community cult clash

ONYEMA GODWIN -
PORT HARCOURT

SEVEN persons were allegedly killed Friday night in a deadly clash between two rival cults in Ajakaja, Andoni Local Government Area, Rivers State.

Community sources have it that community has been gripped with fear after gunmen believed to be members of a dominant cult group entered Ajakaja and shooting for hours.

Our correspondent was reliably informed that the hoodlums were confronted by a rival group resulting in a gun duel which left seven persons dead

and several others wounded.

An indigene of the community, Hycent Dagbor told our reporter that inhabitants of the community were now living

in fear as the cult leaders had threaten more attacks.

"It took intervention of the Special Anti-Robbery Squad, SARS, to calm the situation

as the hoodlums took flight through the river side", Dagbor stated.

Efforts to confirm the incident with the Rivers State Po-

lice command was not successful as Nnamdi Omoni, Rivers State Police Public Relations Officer, did respond to several calls made to his line.

...as FG moves in to restore order

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HOPE for respite over violent killings ravaging parts of Rivers State emerged on Saturday as the Federal Government is set to partner with the state government restore law and order.

To demonstrate its determination, the Federal

Government dispatched the Minister of Interior, Lt. Gen. Abdulraham Danbazzau to Rivers to discuss with the state government on ways to tackle the challenge by cult gangs which massacred innocent people during inter and intra cult conflicts.

Speaking to the state governor, Nyesom Wike on the reasons for his visit, Dan-

bazzau said it was at the instance of President Muhammadu Buhari, to assess the security situation of the state.

On behalf of the president, he commiserated with the government and people of Rivers over the killings at Omoku, saying; "Rivers State is important to the country, particularly when

it comes to the issue of the economy."

"It is very important that the Federal Government partners with the state to see how any security gaps can be closed for adequate protection of lives and property," the minister added.

He later visited Omoku, Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni local government area, where yet-to-be identified gunmen killed 17 persons early New Year day after the cross over

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