

12 arrested as cult members kill Lagos chief

Olalekan Olajubulo | Lagos

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TWELVE suspected cult members have been arrested by the police in Lagos State in connection with the death of a chief in Abule-Ado area of the state.

The deceased, Murtala Ado, was the **Akogun** of Abule-Ado, and he was trying to mediate on an issue between the cult group and residents of the community on Friday when he was attacked with machete.

He was later rushed to a nearby hospital, where he died on Sunday.

The incident resulted in protest by youths in the community, who attacked the house of an alleged leader of the cult group, vandalising the whole building.

A resident of Abule-Ado, who identified himself as Segun, told the **Nigerian Tribune**: "Last Friday, a building was razed by fire and people were trying to help the owner salvage some of the property, when cult members began to loot.

"When one of them was arrested with a television set, he was beaten but allowed to go.

"However, the people became apprehensive when there were reports that cult members were mobilising to attack the community.

"Akogun [the chief] called the leader of the cultists to resolve the issue and they were having a meeting when another group of guys invaded the venue, while attacking everyone.

Efforts to get a confirmation from the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Bala Elkana, failed, as calls to his mobile phone line were not answered.

However, a police source at the State Criminal Investigations Department (SCID), Panti, who spoke to the **Nigerian Tribune** under the condition of anonymity, said that 12 people were arrested in connection with the incident.

is untrue.

He said: "They lied against us. We came to the stadium to celebrate but they attacked us without any provocation. They wounded some of our members and this made our members to retaliate.