

3 killed as cultists hold Lagos communities hostage

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NO fewer than three persons were between Sunday afternoon and Wednesday morning killed and many others injured as two rival cult groups clashed in Ketu, Mile 12 and Owode Onirin areas of Lagos State.

Houses and vehicles were also burnt and vandalised by the hoodlums, who were reportedly armed with guns.

Reprisals from members of the two groups forced many residents of the areas to remain indoors as hoodlums took advantage of the situation to rob and loot.

The police in the state confirmed the clash, but denied

that anybody was killed.

The state's Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Muyiwa Adejobi, while speaking on the incident, said the police had deployed adequate personnel to the troubled areas.

The *Nigerian Tribune* gathered that though, the area had always been turbulent, the recent clash started when the leader of one of the cult groups, simply identified as Salakwa, was killed around Owode Elede on Sunday afternoon.

Suspected colleagues of the late Salakwa, on hearing the news of his death, went on the rampage and reportedly killed an unidentified rival cult member in the

process, just as they also took advantage of the situation to rob motorists along the Ikorodu expressway.

The members of Salakwa's group also invaded Maidan Orile, Owode Onirin and Agilinti in search of rival members.

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