

Police kill two during Xmas carnival in Benue

•We did not kill anybody —Police

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| Makurdi**

THE Christmas music concert purportedly organised by a young millionaire in the ancient Otukpo town turned bloody on Saturday as one of the policemen at the venue shot dead two young persons.

An eyewitness told our correspondent that David Adeleke, popularly known as Davido was billed to perform at the music carnival which later turned bloody.

The eyewitness who did not want to be mentioned told our correspondent that Ochacho avenue, the palatial residence of a young millionaire in Otukpo, the venue of the carnival was

filled to the brim when a policeman allegedly fired a shot that killed two persons.

The eyewitness said, "the event had hardly taken off around 11:00 p:m when I heard gunshots fired by one of the policemen believed to be on duty at the event.

"The gunshots triggered a stampede which caused me to run out of the venue for safety and in the process of running, I saw two persons in the pool of their blood; a male and a female.

"The sound of gunshots made me to run towards the gate as I did not know what was happening.

"Several other people also took to their heels; although it was not easy for

most people to identify the location of their vehicles."

Chairman of Otukpo Local Government Area, George Ali, confirmed the incident and said that a young lady and young man died in the incident.

Ali said that the organiser of the carnival flouted federal and state governments directives banning social gathering already put in place as a result of the second wave of COVID-19.

"It is true there was an incident and two people died, a young lady and a young man died, their corpses have been deposited in the hospital morgue.

"I have spoken to the Area Commander and the Division Police Officer and

they are investigating the incident, the gathering in the first place is not proper because the Federal Government has directed that there should be no social gathering and it was followed by state government, there should be compliance to the directives," Ali said.

When asked what punishment will be meted to the organiser, the chairman said that he was already putting together his report which would be forwarded to the appropriate quarters for necessary action.

When contacted, the spokesperson for the state police command, DSP Catherine Anene, said that police did not kill anybody in Otukpo.