

## 2 die as crisis engulfs Ilobu/Erin Osun over land dispute

### Oyetola deploys soldiers, policemen, imposes 24-hr curfew

Adeolu Adeyemo | Osogbo

**O**SUN State Governor, Mr. Gboyega Oyetola, on Sunday, ordered immediate deployment of armed policemen with support from the army to restore law and order in Ilobu and Erin-Osun, in Irepodun Local Government Area of the state.

The two towns had engulfed in crisis after indigenes clashed on Saturday night, as report said two people were killed while two others sustained gunshot wounds.

According to an eyewitness

account, corpses of those killed had been taken away from the scene of the clash to an unknown place, while those who sustained injuries are receiving treatment in undisclosed hospitals.

Following the clash, the governor, according to a statement by his Chief Press Secretary, Ismail Omipidan, after a marathon meeting with heads of security agencies in the state on Sunday morning, ordered the deployment of policemen and soldiers in the town.

The governor also declared a 24-hour curfew in two local government areas of Orolu and Irepodun local govern-

ment areas of the state.

"As government, we are resolved to do everything possible to protect citizens from actual and potential threats. To this end, we have ordered immediate deployment of security operatives to restore law and order.

"I want to appeal to our people not to destroy our collective heritage by taking laws into their own hands. Two wrongs don't make a right. I, therefore, appeal to the warring parties to sheath their sword and allow peace to reign," the governor was quoted to have said in a statement by his media aide.

In another statement im-

posing the curfew on the two local government areas, signed by the Secretary to the State Government, Prince Wole Oyebamiji, the government said it became necessary to douse tension in the troubled area and would subsist until further notice.

"As a responsible and responsive government that took the sacred oath to protect the lives and property of our citizens, we believe that the declaration of curfew is the way to go in this circumstance.

"By this, security operatives have been directed to arrest and prosecute any person found violating the

curfew and those responsible for the violence.

"All citizens and residents of the affected local government areas are enjoined to comply with this directive as any person found contravening this order shall be made to face the wrath of the law," the statement read.

Investigations revealed that a disputed boundary land had been generating controversy between the two towns for the past years as both towns laid claims to ownership.

**Nigerian Tribune** gathered that the two communities threw caution to the wind and fired gunshot

indiscriminately.

It was also gathered that some dressed like ancient warriors and wrestled with weapons like guns, machetes, clubs, knives, axes and even charms.

When contacted, the state police command's spokesperson, Mrs Yemisi Opalola, confirmed the story, adding that trouble broke out between the two communities because "some parts of Erin community jurisdiction had been ceded to Ilobu on enumeration area demarcation."

He confirmed that two people were shot in their legs and had been rushed to hospitals for treatment.

**Police recover body of missing**