

Three die in Kwara communal clash

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THE age-long land dispute between the people of Share in Ifelodun Local Government Area and their neighbours in Kange town in Tsaragi district in Edu Local Government Area of Kwara State on Thursday reportedly claimed three lives.

Nigerian Tribune gathered that no fewer than 20 people also sustained varying degrees of injury during a communal dash on Thursday morning.

It will be recalled that the two communities had been having animosity over land matters over the years.

It was gathered that the cause of the renewed hostilities was over a piece of land in-between the two communities meant for cultivation in preparation for the coming planting season.

While it is not independently verified, reports claim houses and vehicles were burnt in Kange, just as the people in Share community said their neighbours attacked them from their entry and exit points.

An indigene of Share said: "The renewed attack on our community and travellers started early this morning (Thursday). They've been at-

tacking us from both entry and exit points in the town.

"While I can't confirm or deny any death for now, I am very sure scores have sustained varying degrees of injury."

Also speaking, an indigene of Kange community said that: "The crisis has to do with a land close to Kange that indigenes were clearing for the forthcoming farming season, which Share people claimed belongs to them that later degenerated into full-scale hostility.

"At least, I can tell you that three persons have so far been

killed as guns and other dangerous weapons were used."

Confirming the development, the state's Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Ajayi Okasanmi, said: "We received information and immediately deployed our men there. We've restored normalcy as I am speaking with you."

Also, in a statement by the Chief Press Secretary (CPS) to Governor Abdulrahman Abdulrazaq, Mallam Rafiu Ajakaye, on Thursday, the state government said it had taken immediate steps to maintain peace in the communities.