

Bishop, son killed, houses razed in Cross River communal clash

Godwin Otang | Calabar

A bishop and his son were reportedly killed during a community clash in Biase Local Government Area of Cross River State.

The clash was between the people of Abanwan and Urugbam in Erei clan.

The local government is the council area of the deputy governor of the state, Professor Ivora Ejemot Esu.

It was gathered that the bishop was ambushed alongside his son on a motorcycle while on their way from Abanwan community to nearby Afikpo in Ebonyi State.

Nigerian Tribune gathered that about six houses were set ablaze during the clash.

The Erei communities had,

over the years been at loggerheads over a piece of land that was established by the defunct Eastern Region before the Nigerian civil war as oil palm plantation settlement.

The settlement was handed over to the Cross River State government shortly after the civil war, being that the location is in the state. However, the Erei community, where the oil palm plantation is located, has 10 villages, which are all now scrambling for the ownership of the settlement.

The Army Public Relations Department from 13 Brigades Army Headquarters in Calabar, the state capital, confirmed the mobilisation of troops to the area to douse the tension.