

# 10 feared killed in renewed Edo cult war

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**A**BOUT 10 people have been feared killed in renewed cult-related war in Benin-City, Edo State. *Nigerian Tribune* gathered that the latest victims were the four persons shot on Thursday at Upper Mission, Okhun and Oluku areas in the state capital. It will be recalled that a revenue collector, simply

identified as 'Mopol,' was on Wednesday shot dead around Okhoro junction by New Benin. Also, one Miss Ibrahim Asmat Happy, a final year student of Auchi Polytechnic and another revenue collector whose name could not be ascertained, were killed on the same day in Auchi, the administrative headquarters of Etsako West Local Government Area. It was gathered that Happy was hit by stray

bullet in front of the institution's Campus Two gate after suspected cultists were after their target, the revenue collector. Confirming the incident, a lecturer who craved anonymity said the area had been tensed since the incident occurred on Wednesday, adding that: "Cult-related clashes have become a trend among young people in Auchi." However, Thursday's incidents in Benin, according

to a source, might not be unconnected with the supremacy battle between members of the Black Axe, Maphite and Eiye confraternities. *Nigerian Tribune* further gathered that a popular 'big boy' in Benin, alongside his girlfriend, was shot at a hotel around Aikhionbare area in GRA by suspected cultists who allegedly operated with an unregistered Toyota Sienna bus.

The victims, according to report, are currently recuperating at an undisclosed hospital in the state. When contacted, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Chidi Nwanbuzor, said he had not been briefed on the incidents. As of the time of filing in this report, attacks and shootings by members of rival cult groups were reportedly ongoing at different areas in Benin.