

① One killed, others injured in gun attack on Ogun community

Residents call on IGP for intervention

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ONE person was killed and many others injured as gunmen invaded Osuke community in Ado Odo Local Government area of Ogun State.

This is just as the family of the deceased, identified as Saheed Jinadu Shoboyede, lleke family of Osuke, has called on the Inspector-General of Police (IGP) to institute investigation into the killing of their son.

They also expressed their fear that the perpetrator of the killing might continue to unleash mayhem on the community going by his history of violence in different parts of

the state without any arrest by the police.

While Shoboyejo was killed during an attack on the community on Thursday last week by over a 100 armed hoodlums; another member of the community was injured three days before then.

In a petition to the Commissioner of Police and the Ogun State House of Assembly, the family alleged that armed attacks orchestrated by known individuals continued to threaten their safety and violate court rulings that affirmed their ownership of a disputed land.

Mr Olanrewaju Balogun, a member of the family, who is also lawyer, while speaking with newsmen, noted that

Osuke has become a flash-point of violence.

The lawyer also stated that despite securing judgments from both the Ogun State High Court and the Court of Appeal confirming their rightful ownership of the land, the family had faced constant attacks, police intimidation and threats from rival factions determined to take control of the area.

The family said: "We demand an independent and thorough investigation into the killing of our brother, Saheed Jinadu Shoboyede. If no action is taken, more innocent lives will be lost."

The lleke family alleged that on "February 24, armed men shot and wounded Rasak Yu-

suf and an excavator operator working on a road construction project linking Itele and Osuke.

"Three days later, on February 27, Saheed Jinadu Shoboyede was shot dead by an armed gang in broad daylight."

The family further alleged that the suspects attempted to take away the body of the deceased to destroy evidence, but were stopped by residents, who transported the wounded man to the Area Command Office in Sango before he died.

Despite multiple reports to the police, the lleke family said no action had been taken and nobody arrested in connection with the series of attacks.

The family has now turned to the highest levels of law enforcement and governance, urging the IGP and the Ogun State House of Assembly to intervene before the situation spirals out of control.

"We cannot afford to lose more lives," the petition states.

"Osuke is becoming a war zone because of the unchecked activities of these individuals. If security agencies do not act swiftly, the violence will escalate and more people will die."

The lleke family is also calling on the Ogun State government to take up the case and ensure that those responsible for the killings and violent attacks are brought to justice.

Meanwhile, women from the community have protested at the palace of the traditional ruler of Ota, the Olota of Ota, Oba Abdulkabir Obalanlege, to intervene in the attacks on Osuke community.

The Ogun State Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), CSP Omolola Odutola, confirmed the killing while speaking with the *Nigerian Tribune*.

She also added that the State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID) of the state police command had taken over the investigation of the incident.

She, however, could not confirm as of the time of filing in this report if any person had been arrested in connection with the killing.