

Four killed, palace razed in Etteh's town

Tunde Odesola, Osogbo

FOUR persons were killed and the palace of the Akire of Ikire, Oba Olatunde Falabi, was razed during an intra-communal crisis, which gripped Ikire in Osun State, on Monday.

Investigations by our correspondent showed that some youths set the palace ablaze in protest against recurrent cases of missing persons in the town. Ikire is the hometown

of the Speaker, House of Representatives, Mrs. Patricia Etteh.

A source, who craved anonymity, said the four persons were killed at the palace when the protesters attacked it.

The protest came on the heels of the killing of a woman in the town on Saturday by suspected ritualists, who severed her private parts.

The name of the woman could not be ascertained as at the time of filing this report but it was gathered that she lived

in the town before she met her tragic end.

It was gathered that the people of the town had complained about the activities of fraudsters and ritualists in the town.

A source said one of the four persons was killed in Ode-Adie while another was killed in Sango area and two were killed at Market area of the town.

But a statement by Mr. Femi Adefila, the Press Secretary to

Deputy Governor, Mrs. Olusola Obada, said the four persons were killed outside the palace.

The identities of those killed were unknown as at the time of filing this report.

Properties worth millions of naira were lost to the inferno that engulfed the palace.

Speaking on the phone, Falabi explained that he was the target of the attack, adding that he was slated for elimination by the protesters.