

# Pastor, wife, policeman killed in riot

**Akin Oyedele, Ibadan**

**P**EACE in Igangan, a sleepy town in Ibarapa North Local Government Area of Oyo State, was shattered on Wednesday when youths killed three people, including a policeman and two pastors in an ambush.

According to a police source, the victims, who were pastors of fast-growing pentecostal church were killed when they visited the community on an evangelical mission around 5pm on Wednesday.

The traditional ruler of the

village, Oba Lasisi Adeoye, fled the palace after the hoodlums descended on him and beat him up for allegedly harbouring the visiting evangelists.

According to a police source, although the monarch escaped the assault, the assailants vandalised his Mercedes Benz car before law enforcement agents succeeded in quelling the uprising.

In the end, the source said five others were seriously injured in the incident, which was allegedly sparked off as a result of alleged mistaken identity.

The late pastors were identified as Rosanwo, 49 years old, who went to the community in company with his wife, Tola, 39, and two other ministers, Michael Idowu and Bamidele Otunmagbe.

They were said to have hit the village in a Toyota sport utility van, marked Lagos AAA 335 FST for an evangelism programme.

The decision of the pastor and his entourage to simultaneously market noodles, toilet soaps, biscuits, sweets and other consumables at giveaway prices to attract the people,

was said to have gone awry.

Sensing that the gesture was embedded with a sinister motive, especially kidnapping, the youths were said to have mobilised and attacked the visitors who were pursued to neighbouring villages, where the pastor and his wife were killed.

The Police Public Relations Officer at the command, Miss. Olabisi Okuwobi, who confirmed the incident, said the policeman was killed while trying to maintain law and order in the community.