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## Six killed in cult clashes in Sagamu

By Ademola Oni, Abeokuta, Published: Thursday, 18 Mar 2010

A renewed rivalry between two cult groups in Sagamu, Ogun State, has resulted in the death of a son of a former local government chairman and five others.

The latest clash on Wednesday between the Eye Confraternity and the Black Axe, which had been engaged in a face-off since Saturday, claimed the life of one Kehinde Ogunsanwo, who was shot dead in front of his father's residence located on Ode-Lemo Road, Sabo, Sagamu.

Kehinde, popularly called Simpata, was the son of former Chairman, Sagamu Local Government, the late Chief Saanu Ogunsanwo.

The Wednesday incident, our correspondent learnt, brought the number of those killed in the cult groups' violence to six.

It was learnt that four suspected cultists, armed with guns and other dangerous weapons, arrived at the Ogunsanwo's residence at about 8am on Wednesday, shooting indiscriminately until they fished out their target and shot him at a close range.

The unmasked assailants, who were said to have driven a Quest space bus to the scene of the attack, fled immediately they were able to ascertain that Ogunsanwo was dead.

A source said, "Because of the presence of the vigilance group in Sagamu, cultists don't strike again in the night. They strike in the day time and then escape."

The source explained that tension had gripped the residents of the town as no one was sure when and where the cultists would strike.

The Ogun State Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. Olumuyiwa Adejobi, confirmed the incident and said policemen had been deployed in the area to restore peace.

Adejobi, an Assistant Superintendent of Police, described the deceased as a "notorious member" of one of the cult groups in the area, adding that three cartridges were found on him after his death.

The police spokesman, who said no one had been arrested in connection with the incident, explained that the state Commissioner of Police, Mr. Musa Daura, had ordered the Divisional Police Officer, Sagamu, and the Area Commander to flush out the cultists in the town.

The PPRO said, "The police command is aware of the incident. The boy, one Kenny Ogunsanwo, is a member of one of the cult groups. When his corpse was searched, the police recovered three cartridges. But the police have taken up the matter and the DPO and Area Commander have been ordered to make sure the cultists are fished out and fortify security in the area."

He added that the command would not hesitate to deal decisively with anybody found perpetrating criminal activities in the state.

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