



March 12th, 2015



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## Three die in C'River PDP, LP clash

MARCH 11, 2015 BY MUDIAGA AFFE • 17 COMMENTS



No fewer than three persons are feared dead after supporters of the Peoples Democratic Party and the Labour Party clashed during a political rally in Ekor, Yakurr Local Government Area of Cross River State.

The clash, according to an eyewitness, Ephraim Nya, started on Monday afternoon when youths loyal to PDP tried to disrupt the campaign train of the LP candidate for the Yakurr/Abi Federal Constituency, Dr. Alex Egbona.

Egbona, who was the immediate past Chief of Staff to Governor Liyel Imoke, was scheduled to visit Ekor as part of his campaign tour to solicit for votes for the March 28 election but was barred by youths from entering the community.

Ekor is the hometown of the incumbent House of Representatives member, Mr. Bassey Ewa, who is seeking re-election for the third time under the platform of the PDP.

Our correspondent learnt on Wednesday that the planned visit of Egbona allegedly angered some youths in the area that were said to have barricaded the road leading to the community.

Nya said the action infuriated the LP supporters who resisted their PDP counterpart.

He said, "The fight went on throughout Monday night and the early hours of Tuesday leading to the death of some persons, while several others sustained various degrees of injury. As I speak to you, three people have died and many people have been wounded.

"People have deserted the village and those remaining are the people who are stranded because they don't have where to go or money to facilitate their movement."

When contacted, the state Police Public Relations Office, Mr. Hogan Bassey, declined comments but the Divisional Police Officer in charge of Yakurr Division, Mr. Kabiru Salisu, confirmed the incident, but did not confirm the number of deaths.

He said, "Many people sustained injuries in the fight but the situation has been contained by our men."

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