

Two feared dead, several injured in Edo communal clash

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At least two persons have been reportedly killed following a communal clash between Uneme-Ekpedo and Bekuma-Okpameri communities in Akoko Edo Local Government Area of Edo State.

It was learnt that trouble began when four persons from Bekuma-Okpameri were allegedly attacked by a member of the neighbouring community.

One of the victims from Uneme-Ekpedo was reported to have been killed during a reprisal on Wednesday.

Some Uneme-Ekpedo youths, who were angered by the incident, were said to have later stormed Bekuma-Okpameri, setting houses ablaze and attacking residents randomly.

It was gathered on Friday evening that no fewer than 40 houses, including the palace of the Oba of Bekuma-Okpameri, HRH Oba Moses Alabi, were set ablaze.

Several persons were said to have sustained varying degrees of injury while many others, who managed to escape, sought refuge in a makeshift camp in Lampese, within the same area.

Efforts to reach leaders from the affected communities were not successful as of the time of filing this report.

But a source in the area said, "As I am talking to you now, there is nobody in Bekuma-Okpameri. It is unbelievable. The youths have completely sacked the community and residents are now camped in Lampese."

The Commissioner of Police, Mr. Chris Ezike, while confirming the incident, said that five police teams had been dispatched to the affected communities as parts of investigations to unravel the cause of the crisis and arrest the perpetrators.