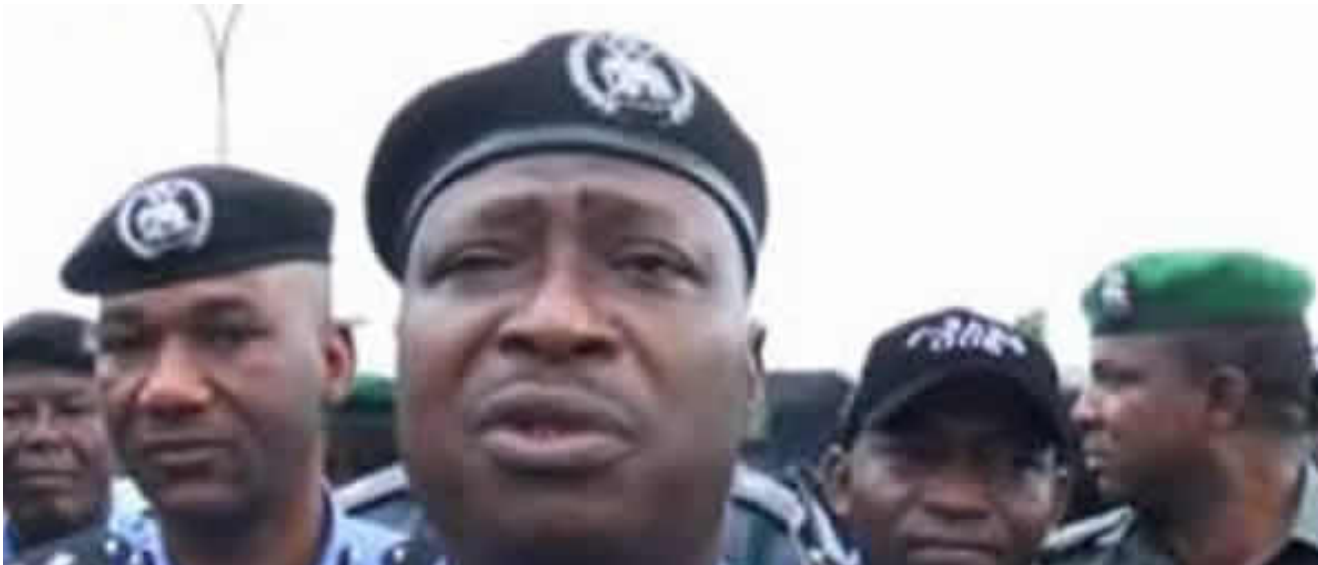


Ogun cult clash: Police arrest 22 suspects for killing three persons

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Ogun State Commissioner of Police, Ahmed Iliyasu

Afeez Hanafi

No fewer than 22 suspects have been arrested by the Ogun State Police Command in connection with the clash between two rival cults in Ijebu-Ode last Sunday, which claimed three lives.

The fight, which extended to the following day, was said to be a supremacy battle between members of Eiye and Aye confraternities terrorising the community.

Two of the deceased were identified as Adekoya Paul, 25 and Olakunle Odumewu.

The spokesperson for the police in the state, DSP Abimbola Oyeyemi, said the suspects were apprehended by a joint police team led by the Area Commander, Ijebu-Ode.

Oyeyemi, in a statement on Friday, said the police had also arrested some key leaders of the groups, noting that they were being investigated by the command.

“To nip the crisis in the bud, the Commissioner of Police, Ogun State Police Command, Ahmed Iliyasu, swiftly deployed some special units of the police such as Police Mobile Force, Special Anti-Robbery Squad, Anti-kidnapping/Cultist Unit to join the Area Commander, Ijebu-Ode, who was already at the scene. Their combined operation led to the arrest of the suspects.

“The CP has directed the Deputy Commissioner of Police in charge of the case to diligently investigate and bring to justice all those who have links to the crisis, including their sponsors. The command will allow such a violent act to go without the perpetrators being punished.”

The police said the suspects had been arraigned before a magistrate’s court sitting in Isabo, Abeokuta, on four counts bordering on criminal conspiracy, murder, belonging to unlawful society and unlawful possession of live ammunition.

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