

Two killed, body missing in fresh Ebonyi/Benue clash

Edward Nnachi, Abakaliki

TWO persons have been reportedly murdered in a renewed boundary crisis between the people of Ekwashi-Ngbo in the Ohaukwu Local Area of Ebonyi State and their neighbours in Agila community in the Ado Local Government Area of Benue State.

The victims, Edeh Oshim, 50, and Ogechukwu Udi, 35, both from Ngbo community, were allegedly killed on Tuesday while on their farms by their assailants.

It was learnt that warlords

from Agila allegedly attacked the men on their farms in Akparata - Ukwuagba Ngbo during which the duo were brutally murdered with the body of Oshim still missing, while his intestines were said to be found littering the scene of the incident.

The Ebonyi State Police Command confirmed the incident to journalists in Abakaliki, on Thursday.

The command's spokesperson, DSP Loveth Odah, stressed that residents of the area had been repeatedly warned to steer clear of the disputed land, saying it was sad

that such incident occurred.

She added that what was happening on the disputed land was becoming unbearable, pointing out that a couple were gruesomely murdered on the same disputed land recently.

Odah said, "On the 27th day of August, 2019, around 3.32pm, there was information that one Edeh Oshim, about 50 years old of Akparata Ukwuagba village in Ngbo community and one Ogechukwu Udi, male, of 35 years old of Ekwashi village in Ngbo community, were murdered by 12 noon by persons suspected to be Agila people of the Ado Local

Government Area of Benue State while they were farming on a disputed land.

"The DPO said as soon as he heard of it, he mobilised and visited the scene. They discovered that the villagers did not see the corpse of Edeh Oshim. What they saw was the intestine of the deceased on the ground, while the corpse was taken away by his killers. Ogechukwu Udi's corpse was recovered and had been taken to the mortuary.

"The DPO said he advised the villagers to abstain from the disputed land. If you recall, you would know that every

time, there had been a warning, even when the commissioner visited them, he warned them to abstain from the land.

"They have been warned to stop going to that land because anything in dispute is an exhibit. The other time it was the husband and wife. They died and left their children behind. Anybody that keeps going there keeps dying. They should look for another land to farm on it."

Group tackles FG over border closure

Ademola Babalola, Ibadan

A group of Yoruba Youth