

Two die, policeman on peace mission missing in Anambra

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Two persons have been reportedly killed and four others injured in a communal conflict between Odekpe and Allah/Onugwa communities in the Anambra West Local Government Area of Anambra State.

A policeman on peace mission in the area was also said to be missing.

The communities had been at war over a parcel of land on their boundary since July.

A resident of Allah/Onugwa, David Uzor, told journalists that warlords suspected to have operated from Odekpe community invaded the refugee camp and abducted his uncle.

He alleged that the invaders, who stormed the area with about six speed boats, later killed his uncle.

He said, “Odekpe people came in their numbers into the community where my people were taking refuge. When they arrived, they began to shoot indiscriminately and chased everybody away.

“They got hold of my uncle, Anthony Uzor, and took him away to their Odekpe community and killed him. They killed him slowly. They first cut off the two hands and legs before they cut off the throat.

“They alleged that our people killed one of their own but when the truth came out it happened that the man was killed by somebody from Edo State over some issues.”

Uzor alleged that the attackers “shot one Igbamaka villager.”

“About four persons from the village were injured. They also beat up three Igbamaka women and collected their telephones,” he added.

But a community leader in Odekpe, Chief Austen Anerah debunked Uzor’s allegations, saying that Allah/Onugwa warlords first killed one of their sons, Goddy Chukwuemeka.

He accused Allah/Onugwa people of “fabricating lies to attract sympathy from the police and the concerned public.”

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer in Anambra State, Haruna Mohammed, said the incident took place outside Anambra command’s jurisdiction, stating that the concerned parties should approach the nearest police station in the state where the incident took place.