



Oyebanji seeks arrest of man's killers in boundary clash

21st May 2024



Ekiti State Governor, Biodun Oyebanji

By Abiodun Nejo

The Ekiti State Governor, Biodun Oyebanji, has ordered security agencies to investigate and arrest the killers of 32-year-old Bayo Agbetoke, who was killed on Saturday during a boundary dispute between Eda Oniyo Ekiti and Obbo Aiyegunle in Kwara State.

Agbetoke was said to have been killed when some irate youths from Obbo Aiyegunle allegedly invaded Eda Oniyo Ekiti, in Ilejemeje Local Government area and attacked the residents over the land dispute.

The Deputy Governor, Mrs Monisade Afuye, accompanied by a retinue of top government officials, represented the governor during a sympathy visit to the palace of Eleda of Eda Oniyo, Oba Julius Awolola and the family of the deceased on Monday.

Afuye said, "This killing was highly devastating and uncalled for. It became more painful to me because it came barely four days after I met with the stakeholders from Eda Oniyo, led by your royal highness, chiefs and elite. We promise that this matter will be resolved officially with the Kwara State Government.





“The government of Governor Biodun Oyebanji places high value on the security of lives and property and under no guise would he allow anyone to kill any Ekiti indigene and go scot-free. I assure you, the killers will be brought to book.

“I have that confidence that his colleague in Kwara State won’t be happy about the sordid turn of events between the two formerly friendly communities. How can we be killing ourselves over land?

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“I sympathise with you on the death of one of you. But I want to appeal to you not to take a reprisal action. Continue to maintain peace no matter the level of provocation. The government is on top of the situation, we are with you.

“We have contacted the Kwara State Government. Please don’t take the law into your own hands. What is most important is that the killers should be apprehended and we will ensure this.

“Pending the time this tension will subside, I appeal to you not to move about any time after 8 pm to avert further attacks. You can’t fight for yourselves. You have intermarried with Obbo Ayegunle and shared relationships,” the deputy governor said.

Eda Oniyo community had in April accused people from Obbo Aiyegunle of invading its town and vandalised local government headquarters, houses, cars and injuring some persons.

But the Obbo Aiyegunle community had that time said it had always reined in its youths in the face of provocations from Eda Oniyo over the land ownership dispute.

Abiodun Nejo

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