

The Port Harcourt Telegraph News, Nigeria

Thursday 19th April 2012 Danger Ahead As. Cultists Re-group Over Guber Election in Bayelsa

By Junior Prince Wiro

As the Bayelsa State gubernatorial elections draw near, residents of Yenogoa, the state capital and other neigbouring villages are living in fear of the unknown following cult clashes between suspected Icelanders and Greenlanders which have left over fifteen persons dead.

Port Harcourt Telegraph sources in Bayelsa state gathered that the cult groups have allegedly aligned themselves along Labour Party (LP) and People's Democratic Party (PDP).

According to the source, the recent clashes might not be unconnected with battle for supremacy and territory control as one of the strategies to capture votes in some places ahead of the elections. We also learnt that the Icelanders who had upper hand and controlled most of the territories now engaged in a bloody clash with Greenlanders who also want to retain their territory ahead of the guber elections.

The battle, sources revealed, have spread to other neighbouring communities as cult groups now search for rival cult members in their communities.

Our source mentioned Kolukuma/Opukuma as one of the stronghold of Greenlanders while the Icelanders control Yenagoa and other adjoining communities.

When Port Harcourt Telegraph contacted the co-ordinator of Labour Party in Kolukuma/Opukuma local government area (KOLGA), Mr. Francis Agara, he said is not true that Labour Party is grooming cultists. He maintained that Labour Party is a peace loving party that only want a change in government.

He rather accused the People's Democratic Party of trying to intimidate people with power of incumbency.

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The chairman of the People's Democratic Party, Mr. Darius Obiene declined to react to a text message sent by Port Harcourt Telegraph which was delivered into his phone. He did not pick several calls put across to him by this publication. Somebody who claimed to be his personal Assistant picked the call later, and said the chairman was not around.

It would be recalled that a Monarch who hails from the same local government area with one of the contestants was attacked some months ago, while unknown gunmen destroyed the house of another contestant.

As at press time, it was speculated that there could be infiltration of arms and ammunition into Bayelsa as a result of sponsorship the cult groups are enjoying from politicians.



Armed Robbery: UST Students Arrested ...Security Officer Killed



NEMESIS may have caught up with the son of a senior lecturer with the Rivers State University of Science and Technology, Port Harcourt following his arrest on Monday over robbery and killing of a Police officer on the campus.

A team of crack detectives from the Special Anti Robbery Squad (SARS) picked up the suspect and two others whose identities could not be immediately ascertained as at press time. However, a dependable source told Port Harcourt Telegraph that one of the suspects is a first year student of the University, while the second, also a student, belongs to the Man O' War brigade on the campus.

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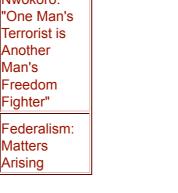
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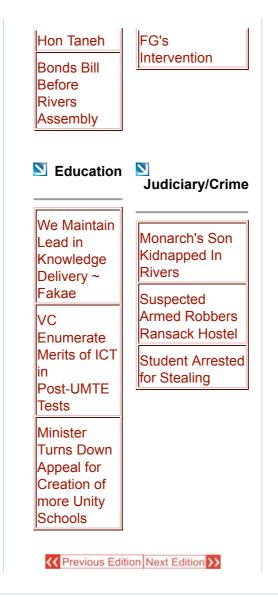
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