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Another bloody communal clash in Osun

Our Reporter

November 10, 2013

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• One feared dead, 10 injured as Ede battles Ido-Osun over disputed land

From BAMIGBOLA GBOLAGUNTE, Osogbo At **least one person was feared dead yesterday while no fewer than 10 others were severely injured in a bloody communal clash between Ede and Ido-Osun communities in Egbedore Local Government Area of Osun State.**

The bloody clash, according to sources in the two towns, began in the early hours of the day and lasted about four hours before anti-riot policemen dispersed the mobs.

Sunday Sun learnt that the clash was sparked by the discovery that the Ede community had erected signposts, claiming ownership of the land on which an airport was being constructed at Ido-Osun.

The new airport, financed by the state government, is located between Ido-Osun and Ede, but the two towns claim ownership of the land.

It was gathered that the Olojudo of Ido-Osun, Oba Adedapo Aderemi

Sapoyoro had during a recent public function in Ede claimed that Ido-Osun did not share boundary with Ede.

Tempers flared, however, when the Ido-Osun people woke up yesterday and discovered that Ede community had erected signposts with the inscription, 'This land belongs to Ede' on the airport site.

The Ido-Osun people promptly mobilized themselves to the site and removed the signposts.

An eyewitness told Sunday Sun on telephone that a fight then ensued with Ede youths allegedly descending on their Ido-osun neighbours and injuring several before law enforcement agents stormed the scene.

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It was gathered that the Ido-Osun were inadequately prepared for the showdown and consequently had more injured victims.

The state Police Command through the Police Public Relations Officer

(PPRO), Mrs. Folashade Odoro confirmed the incident. Mrs. Odoro confirmed the arrest of some suspects, adding that the incident was being investigated.

She said anti-riot police officers had been drafted to the two communities to maintain peace. Similarly, Oba-Ile and Oba-Oke communities in Olorunda Local Government Area of the state had recently engaged in a violent clash, resulting in the loss of at least two lives as well as destruction of property.

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