

Assembly elections held in the state, yesterday.

Polls: 3 dead, property destroyed as APC, PDP supporters clash in Osun

FROM CLEMENT
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Three people were feared dead in Ile Ife, Osun State yesterday, following violent clashes between supporters of All Progressives Congress (APC) and the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), in several neighbourhoods in the town.

Although identities of the deceased could not be confirmed at the time of filing this report, residents of Gbodo area in Ile Ife, who spoke to Daily Sun, said two people were killed in the area during the fracas.

It was reliably gathered

that the two victims of Gbodo clash were siblings of a notable politician in the area, whose house was also razed during the crisis.

Sources said hostilities began on Friday when the party supporters clashed at Enuwa area. During the fight, eyewitnesses said, cutlasses and charms were freely used, as people scampered to different directions for safety.

Ooni of Ife, Oba Okunade Sijuade, had to summon leaders of both parties to his palace on Friday evening, when it was "becoming obvious people would not come out to vote because of the crisis that was

spreading to all parts of Ife," a source in the town said.

Meanwhile, late Saturday evening, violence resurfaced in some areas in the town, when suspected political thugs clashed at Ayetoro, Otutu, Gbodo and Ita-akogun areas and engaged in a gun duel for several hours.

"After the clash in Ayetoro here, a lifeless body was seen near the road leading out of this neighborhood, but we were all too scared to come out. Many people were also injured and property damaged," the source added.

"In a house in Gbodo, the hoodlums damaged four

vehicles. Also, around Ita Akogun, property, mostly cars were damaged," a resident said.

Also in many areas in Ife East Local Government Area, property worth millions of naira were destroyed, while unspecified number of people sustained injuries during the clashes between supporters of APC and PDP.

As at the time of filing this report, the crisis continued in many parts of Ife and efforts to get the reaction of Commissioner of Police in charge of elections in the state, Mr. Valentine Ntomchukwu proved abortive.

Nigerians protest Lagos monarch's threat to Igbo at ICC