

Nkpor youths crisis: One killed, 10 injured

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THE crisis among the youths in Nkpor Community, Idemili North Local Government Area of Anambra State, escalated yesterday, leading to the death of one person, with 10 others injured.

Trouble started when some angry youths attacked a rival group from Nkpor celebrating the granting of bail to one Michael Iwugo by an Ogidi High Court.

The incident which happened at Ububa Village, Nkpor, at about 3:30pm, forced residents and shop owners to close shops and run for safety when sound of gunshots rent the air.

According to the Chairman of Ububa Village, Chief Emeka Peter Mbagha, "I received a call from the vigilance group in the area that some youths believed to be land speculators were in one beer parlour celebrating the release of one of their own, granted bail by the court and were shooting into the air, wielding machetes and other weapons.

"As the celebration was going on, there was an accidental discharge from one of them and the bullet hit one of them and he died on the spot."

Corroborating the statement, the vice-chairman of the vigilance outfit, Mr. Chukwudi Agbarike said, "when we heard the sound of guns, we rushed to the scene and the youths started running we arrested one of them and handed him over to the police."

Speaking from his hospital bed at Ogidi, a victim who had machet cut in the head Mr. Chijioke Nnabuike, said he escaped death by the whiskers, adding that they were celebrating the granting of bail to Iwugo by an Ogidi High Court when some youths who were armed emerged from nowhere and started shooting at them and in the process, he was hit in the chest and died on the spot.

He said "One of them rushed at me with a machet and as I tried to escape he hit my head with it and gave me a cut on the head."

It was gathered that the Police Command led by the Deputy Commissioner of Police, DCP, Mr. Bashir D. Makama stormed the scene of the incident with the Police Public Relations Officer, PPRO, Mr. Okechukwu Ali and the Ogidi Divisional Police Officer, DPO Mr. Hassan Musa.