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From **Judex Okoro,**
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10 killed, 2 villages sacked in Ebonyi, C'River communal clash

TEN persons have been reportedly killed in a communal clash between Ukelle community in Yala Local Government Area of Cross River and Izzi community in Ebonyi state.

Besides, two villages were also set ablaze in the fratricidal clash. The two neighbouring communities had been fighting over farmland for decades, leading to series of destructions and loss of innocent lives.

Efforts by both Cross Riv-

er and Ebonyi State governments to bring lasting peace to the areas failed.

Investigations by *Sunday Sun* revealed that the recent hostilities broke out following an alleged gun attack on Ijipolo, an Ukele village.

It was learnt that the incident happened last Wednesday when Izzi people allegedly attacked a woman from

Ijipolo in her farm, leaving her in a critical condition.

When news of the attack got to Yala youths, they regrouped for reprisal, claiming that attacks on their communities had been too many of late.

A witness, Mr Justine Egekele, said while the Yala people were preparing for reprisal attack, the Izzi people

launched another attack on Ijipolo and Mfuma villages and inflicted machete cuts on some elders who were returning from a meeting.

Egekele further said the two villages were invaded and property worth hundreds of thousands of naira destroyed.

Sources from the community said some of the victims

were receiving treatment at an undisclosed private clinic in Yahe.

The Cross River State Commissioner of Police, Mr Hafiz Inuwa, could not be

reached for comments. But the state Police Public Relations Officer, Ms Irene Ugbo, said the commissioner was on official duty to the conflict area.

APGA chieftain lauds Obiano's plan for okada riders

From **Jeff Amechi Agbodo,**
Onitsha

Obiano as the political messiah Anambra people had been