

2 killed in cult war

From **Bamigbola Gbolagunte**, Akure

Two persons yesterday lost their lives in a brutal cult clash in Ondo, headquarters of Ondo West Local Government Area of Ondo State.

The clash was the aftermath of an argument that ensued among members of rival cult groups in the town during a ceremony involving residents of the town and some indigenes who came around for Christmas celebration.

It was reliably gathered that a leader of one of the cult groups, popularly known as 'Sharp man,' was shot dead by yet-to-be-identified person on the eve of Christmas.

The bloody clashes that almost marred the celebration of the New Year happened at three different places in the town. The clash that occurred at Sabo area of the town claimed the life of a middle-age man known as Drogba, a notable task force official in the town, while many residents were injured.

A witness said the deceased was in the area when some men suddenly emerged and shot him at a close range. The deceased was reportedly rushed to the Ondo Trauma Centre, where he was later confirmed dead.

Also, in the Shora area of the town, a clash between rival cult members claimed the life of an unidentified man. Sources said the deceased was shot by two persons who were members of a rival cult after an argument ensued among them.

Similarly, in another clash in which two persons were said to have sustained injuries, two assailants on a speeding motorbike suddenly shot at them and escaped.

The development caused panic in the town and led to the arrest of several persons by the police.

burn Ondo's