

3 killed,10 arrested in Delta inter-communal clash

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Paul Osuyi, Asaba

At least,three persons were killed due to violent clash between Obinoba and Umusume communities in Ukwuani Local Government Area of Delta State.

Ten persons have been arrested in connection with the fight.

Daily Sun learnt that the violence resulted from disagreement over a piece of land. Local sources said the crisis started during the Ukwata Annual Festival celebrated by Obinoba community.

The source claimed that a group of Obinoba people danced to the home of a titled chief in Ogbe-Ogbite quarters, adding that on their way home, Umusume youths allegedly waylaid them by the cemetery, and accused them of straying into their territory.

The source added that the confrontation led to the death of one person while others are in critical condition.

“Obinoba owns Ogbe-Ogbite quarter. A traditional ruler from Obinoba lives there. They were celebrating Ukwata Festival, so revellers from Obinoba danced to this quarter to pay homage.

“On their way back, Umusume youths accosted them by the cemetery, accusing them of trespass ,but Obinoba youths resisted and fighting ensued,” the source alleged.

However,
Commissioner of
Police in the state, Mr.
Hafiz Inuwa ,while
confirming the fracas,
denied reports that the
clash claimed lives.

Inuwa said the police
have doused the
tension in the area

with the arrests made.

“As far as I am concerned there was no death. Actually somebody was
macheted. He was taken to the hospital. Two others received gunshot
wounds.

“On receipt of information policemen were quickly drafted in. Ten
persons were arrested. Two guns, charms and so many cartridges were
recovered,” Inuwa stated.

He explained that there is a dispute over an area, adding that one of
the villages was celebrating its’ festival “and in the course of dancing
they exceeded their bounds, straying into the disputed area. This was
what caused the fracas.”

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