

# Cult rivalry claims 28-year-old man in Bayelsa

From **Femi Folaranmi**, Yenagoa

**A** renewed supremacy between two notorious cult groups, Greenlanders and Bobos, on Tuesday night, in Yenagoa, Bayelsa State capital, has claimed the life of a 28-year-old man identified as Victor Namabebe.

Investigation revealed that Namabebe was killed at Ebis Mechanic Road, Amarata, a suburb of Yenagoa.

Findings indicated that the deceased, a suspected executioner for Greenlanders, was said to have stormed Amarata with other suspected Greenlanders to launch an attack on a former Greenlander, who had dumped the cult group for Bobos.

However, unknown to them, the Bobos members, having got a hint of the planned attack, had prepared fully, resulting in a gun duel which caused pandemonium in the area. Residents of the area said the fierce battle between the rival cult group led to volley of gun shots and use of dangerous weapons which forced shop owners and other businesses to close.

It was gathered that many of the residents, who were trapped at various viewing centres, at around 8pm, watching the Champions League quarter final matches, scamped home for safety. The victim was reported to have been left in his own pool of blood with suspected degree of head injuries.

Sources said there was a red alert of reprisal in certain parts of Yenagoa, namely, Apex Academy Road, OMPADÉC, Ebis Mechanic and Amarata, over the death of Namabebe.

Contacted on the development, the spokesman of the Bayelsa Police Command, Musa Mohammed confirmed the development and said the

body of the deceased has been deposited at the morgue.

"At about 9pm (on Tuesday), one Chief Emmanuel Namabebe reported at the A Division of the Nigerian Police that his 28-year-old son, Victor

Namabebe, was found dead at the Amarata area of the state capitol. Police personnel from the A Division mobilised to the area and found the victim. Upon examination, he was found with various grievous

injuries to the head."

Recently, at the State Security Council meeting attended by Governor Douye Diri and service commanders in the state had passed a resolution directing the police to clamp

down on cult activities in the state.

The resolution was prompted by the increasing wave of cult related violence and its negative effect on the prevailing peace in the state.

## Kogi bandits attack: We've arrested some suspects -Ododo

**GOVERNOR** Ahmed Ododo of Kogi State, yesterday, disclosed that some suspects have been arrested in connection with the bandits' killings at Agojeju-Odo and Abejukolo communities in Omala Local Government Area of the state.

The two communities were attacked by suspected herdsmen on April 4, where 25 people were reportedly killed and several others left injured by the assailants.

Ododo, while speaking with newsmen shortly after observing his prayer at Okene Eid-el Praying Ground, said "some suspects have been arrested in connection with the killings and investigation is ongoing."

"The crisis in Omala Local Government Area has not just started, today, but has been there for some years now and we will do our best to make sure that peace is fully restored in the area. As I speak with you, some suspected persons have been arrested; investigations are ongoing and they are giving us useful information. As soon as we are done with the investigation, the report will be made public and the perpetrators will be brought to justice."

The governor commiserated with relatives of those killed in the crisis and re-

stated the government's commitment to provide support for those injured and others whose houses were destroyed in the attack. He further urged Muslims in the state to sustain the lessons learnt in the holy month of Ramadan.

"As we mark the end of this Ramadan, I urge each and everyone of us to carry forward the lessons learnt in this

month of Ramadan. Let us continue to practice kindness, generosity, love and understanding in our daily life," Ododo said.

Chief David Akpa, District Head and Ochalala Onu-Ife Bagaji Odo, Omala, Kogi, confirmed to reporters in his palace that the 25 people killed were buried on Saturday. He said those buried included two women and four children.

Akpa described the attack as barbaric and wicked given the way and manner the bandits unleashed mayhem on his people. He had called on the federal and state governments to come to the aid of the victims, who are taking refuge in various communities for fear of their dear lives.

(Continued on [www.sunnewsonline](http://www.sunnewsonline))

## Insecurity: Northern youths warn Kwankwaso

From **Fred Itua**, Abuja

**THE** Coalition of Northern Youth Movement (CNYM) has warned former presidential aspirant, Rabi'u Kwankwaso, to be mindful of his comments as they relate to national security.

The group, in a statement, yesterday, said the former Kano State governor is in no position to advise the Federal Government on security issues.

In the statement signed by its President, Talba Isah, the youths said Kwankwaso, who allegedly 'failed as a governor and minister of defence', was already leading the incumbent governor of Kano towards the same catastrophic path.

"Given Kwankwaso's brazen attempt at revisionism, it has become pertinent to remind him that, as Minister of

Defence from 2003 to 2007, he initiated the toxic culture of inter-agency rivalry, diversion of arms purchase funds, the relegation of intelligence gathering, ethnicism in the armed forces, and the shielding of extremist groups - all of which later culminated in the security meltdown that threatened Nigeria's existence," the statement said.

"We are also aware of the brand of political extremism that Kwankwaso propagated in Kano State, which spread to other parts of the northwest and mutated into banditry since the militant supporters of the Kano politicians reverted to lives of crime in the aftermath of election losses. It is certainly Kwankwaso's desire to leverage NNPP as a means of spreading such political extremism across the country,

hence the tantrum when he found out that the current administration is taking steps that will mitigate the spread of any form of extremism.

"The Coalition of Northern Youth Movement, therefore, finds it irresponsible that Kwankwaso could say that Tinubu lacked the capacity to tackle the insecurity in the country. We find this statement highly reprehensible, especially at a time when Kwankwaso's puppet, who is serving as a governor in the only state in which his party managed to snatch victory by crooked means, has not been able to provide good governance in the last nine months.

"We are, consequently, informing Kwankwaso that our movement will not hesitate to produce a full dossier on how Kano State, under Kwankwaso and his puppet, Abba Kabir Yusuf, has undermined national security in the last nine months, if he does not begin to take noticeable remedial measures to undo the damage he has done to the country.

"We further urge the one-time minister of defence and

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