

2 feared dead as IYC election in Rivers turns bloody

From Tony John, Port Harcourt

OVER two persons were reportedly killed yesterday at the venue for the Ijaw Youth Council (IYC) election in Abuloma area of Port Harcourt City Local Government Area, Rivers State.

Sunday Sun gathered that armed supporters of different opponents stormed the venue of the election in Abuloma community and disrupted the exercise with sporadic gunshots that lasted for several hours.

Sources alleged that several youths sustained injuries in the pandemonium that ensued as people scampered for safety.

A source and resident of the area identified as Goodluck said that his neighbour was hit by a stray bullet, and he bled to death because nobody could come to his rescue.

Meanwhile, the Rivers State Police Command said that it was aware of the "senseless and sporadic shooting at Abuloma area in the Port-Harcourt City Local Government of the State, where the Ijaw Youth Council (IYC) Central Zone was conducting its election."

State Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Grace Iringe-Koko, a Superintendent of Police (SP), confirmed the shooting, but did not mention any casualty in her statement released yesterday.

She said that as a result of gunshots, the Commissioner of Police, Rivers State, CP Olatunji Disu, swiftly dispatched tactical teams to the scene, but before the arrival of the police, the perpetrators had ran into hiding.

According to her, the Commissioner of Police has