

Two killed in Cross River cult clashes

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Two persons have been reportedly killed while hundreds have been made to flee Iso-Bendeghe community in Cross River State as a result of cult war.

The community was said to have been in a celebration mood when some cult members began shooting sporadically, putting an abrupt end to the celebration.

A source told our correspondent that two members each from the contesting groups were shot dead by a policeman who was himself injured during the exchange of gunfire.

The cult groups have bunt down houses while two persons believed to be members of one of the cult's groups have been killed.

Some members of the community have since fled their homes, taking refuge in the bush with their families for fear of being killed.

One of the victims who said she is currently hiding in the bush told our correspondent

on phone that crisis began since Monday and assumed a deadly turn on Wednesday.

She said: "As I am talking to you now I am in the bush and many of our people have ran into the bush. The two cult groups have been creating problems in our village since Monday and four people have so far died, two from each camp. However, a police man has been injured.

"They are burning down our houses and they are killing anybody in sight. I don't know how many people they have killed now but as at yesterday before we ran out of the village, two persons were already dead."

When contacted, the Police Public Relation Officer (PPRO), Irene Ugbo, confirmed the incident but said two persons have been killed from one of the cult groups and a policeman shot at.

Ugbo said: "The police is aware of the incident, I think it is a cult related issue but by the grace of God, we have been able to deploy our men of PMS even our conventional men are also there to make sure the area is calm.

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