

PHOTOS: Tension grip Akure over Hausa/Yoruba clashes



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Palpable tension still gripped Akure, the Ondo State capital over a possible reprisal attack following the clash between Hausa and Yoruba communities in the town.

In fact, the Sabo area in Odo-Ijoka street where the Hausa community resides has been cordoned off by security agencies comprising police and National Security and Defence Corps (NCSDC).

The Hausa and Yoruba communities in Odo-Ijoka on Sunday night clashed over the observance of the annual egungun festival.

The crisis was said to have been triggered by traditionalists who were said to be observing Egungun Isopo festival and some Hausa traders.



It was gathered that the Akure community led by the Elejoka had gone on air announcing the celebration of the Egungun festival and directed residents living along the Sabo-Odojoka street to keep off the streets during the festival which was to last for a day.

However, trouble started when the masquerades and the traditional worshippers were said to have cited a Hausa man pushing wheel barrow attempting to pass through their midst and also attempted to resisted the egungun from passing through the street.

He was said to have been flogged by the masquerade. The Hausa man supported by some others were said to have fought the

masquerade removing its mask .

In about half an hour that followed, there was commotion everywhere as daggers and other weapons were freely used.

During the bloody clash a woman identified as Mama Lekan slumped and died while some buildings, six vehicles and 12 motorcycles were burnt to ashes.



But the government in a led delegation led Deputy Governor, Agboola Ajayi condemned in strong terms the clash between the Hausa