

C'River: Police confirms 5 injured in Yache/Tiv clash

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The Cross River State Police Command, has claimed that the renewed hostilities between Yache community and Tivs in the state who have lived in the community over time, did not claim any life.

The Police Public Relations Officer of the command, SP Irene Ugbo, who made the clarification yesterday in a telephone interaction with our Correspondent said, "only five people were injured during the Sunday clash.

According to her, "Only five people were injured, there was no death. Where did you get 20 people? Nobody called me to ask anything and people just said 20 people died? Who counted the dead? Which hospital are they now, because the situation is under control as our personal are on ground," she said.

The PPRO however, said the situation would have been controlled that yesterday, "but they did not allow our DPO there to enter. The Tivs ambushed their opponents, but as at today (Monday) nobody has been found dead," she said

Reports of 20 people dying as

a result of the internecine crisis in Yala have gone viral with the authors of the story claiming that some military personnel provided the figure.

Although independent information did not mention anything about whether anybody died or not, sources were unanimous that houses on both sides were set ablaze.

A source in Yache, Augustine Odey said the hostilities resumed on Thursday afternoon when their son, Ayeku Godwin Ochuole went to his farm where Tiv assailants attacked and killed him.

According to him, the incident allegedly resulted in the abduction of, at least, nine other persons who suffered various degrees of bullet wounds.

The violent boundary clashes started about two months ago when the Tiv settlers allegedly refused to continue the payments of royalties for their stay on Yache lands.

The Tiv settlers have claimed that they were being extorted forcibly by the natives, and that they have no other place to call their own having settled there for over 100 years, inter-married and own properties.