

Communal Clashes: Enugu Community Conducts Mass Burial For 8



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The people of Umuanigbiyovo Oyiwode, Akpawfu, in the Nkanu East Local Government Area of Enugu State conducted a mass burial for eight members of the community yesterday.

Those buried were killed in a communal clash within the community, which began in April 2023.

There was a heavy presence of security operatives when the burial ceremonies went underway. A community member told journalists that trouble started when one of the community leaders constituted and armed a vigilance group that went out to attack another section of the community.

He said more than 15 houses had been burnt in the community since the crisis started. Addressing journalists after the burial, James Ogbu, the Igwe-elect of Isiagu autonomous community, Akpawfu, confirmed the narrative and said the initial rumour that herdsmen were responsible for the murders was untrue.

He said: "It was not herdsmen that killed us, but Akpawfu people killed their kinsmen. "We decided to conduct the mass burial of those whose bodies could be retrieved, as other people are still missing.

"The state government has been aware of the issue since the crisis began, and that explains the presence of security operatives at the mass burial; otherwise, another attack would have taken place."