

Communal Clash: Five Killed, 15 Injured

Five persons were killed, while 15 others sustained various degrees of injuries yesterday in Ikare-Akoko, headquarters of Akoko North East Local Government Area of Ondo State, as a clash between two families over land dispute entered the second day.

According to *THISDAY* checks, the Odoso and Igbede families had been at war since 1960, over an expanse of land measuring about eight kilometers and located between Akungba-Akoko and Ikare-Akoko.

During the clash which began on Tuesday, dangerous weapons including gun, cutlasses and clubs were freely used by the two camps.

An 84-year-old man believed to be a member of the Odoso family, who had suffered partial stroke, a middle aged woman and another young man were reported to be among those shot and killed in the clash.

Two persons were said to have been shot when the fight broke out on Tuesday while the Wednesday clash erupted as early as 7.00a.m.

A nephew of the 84-year-old man, Mr Akinola Dada, alleged that the Igbedes had

From James Sowole in Akure

imported thugs from neighbouring states to unleash terror on the Odoso Family.

He said, "Igbede people came yesterday with thugs from neighbouring state in four buses armed with guns and other dangerous weapons, killing three persons and injuring 12 others before they vandalised four buildings.

"God will judge them! The legal tussle started since 1971 and the Supreme Court delivered a judgment in our favour, despite this, they still come around to kill our people and destroy our houses."

Another eyewitness from

No Way for Political Thuggery in

Kwara State Governor, Bukola Saraki, yesterday said his administration would not give respite to anybody caught engaging in any acts of violence, capable of threatening the commitment of the ruling Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) government to conduct free and fair election.

He said already, the state government has donated 10 Toyota Hilux Van to the state police command, to ensure constant monitoring of security operations.

the Igbede Family who identified himself, as Mr Lekan Idowu, said the Odoso started the fresh clash. He said despite that the case was still in court, the Odosos were selling part of the land.

Idowu said, "they came this morning with thugs and started shooting at us. They had the support of another family and came to kill two of our people."

THISDAY learnt that the Supreme Court had delivered a judgment in favour of the Odoso Family over the land dispute in 2002, after which 11 houses were allegedly set ablaze by the Igbede family.

*From Hammed Shittu
in Ilorin*

Saraki said this in Iwo-Isin, Isin Local Government council area of the state, after the conclusion of his electioneering campaign across the region and breadth of Kwara South Senatorial district.

He said government would not allow any candidate to use the period of the campaign to throw the state into violence.

According to him, politics is