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Communal Clash Claims One

From Hammed Shittu in Ilorin, 11.04.2008

Kwara

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At least one person was reportedly killed at Share, headquarters of Ifelodun Local Government Council in Kwara State yesterday, when residents allegedly engaged their neighbours at Tsaragi, in Edu Local Government Council area over land dispute.

Already, the state police command has deployed about 200 anti-riot policemen to the area.

Special Assistant on Media Affairs to Governor Bukola Saraki, Alhaji Buliamin Adedamola, told THISDAY in Ilorin, that Secretary to the State Government (SSG), Alhaji Saka Onimago, led government delegation to the disputed area.

THISDAY checks revealed yesterday that, the on-going onslaught was ignited when people from one of the sides to the crisis allegedly tried to stop construction of a new school at a location described as "far from disputed area."

During the crisis, one person was confirmed dead, while three others were on admission over injuries sustained during a gun duel between the two communities.

Eye-witness accounts indicate that fighting began on Sunday evening and persisted despite spirited efforts by leaders of the two communities to douse the tension, which led to burning of several houses.

Chairman of Ifelodun Council Area, Alhaja Nimota Amuda, who confirmed the incident, said everything was being done to bring the situation under control. She was at the Police Command headquarters with her counterpart from Edu, Alhaji Idris Liman.

Also speaking yesterday, the state police Image Maker, DSP Tunde Muhammed, who confirmed the incident said the Command has deployed anti-riot policemen numbering over 200 to maintain peace and order.

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