

isers said the contest aims to support journalism projects for the digital age. The IPT considered projects building platforms for delivering high-quality jour-

3 Feared Killed as Oil Community Protests

From Omon-Julius Onabui in Warri

Three persons were feared killed while the palace of a traditional and several other houses were reportedly torched when what was supposed to be a peaceful march to protest alleged injustice by a multi-national oil company operating in Uzere in Isoko South Local Government Area, Delta State, turned violent.

THISDAY learnt that aside the fatalities, the palace of the Ovie (King) of Uzere, HRM Isaac Udogri I, including his guest house and a provisions store belonging to his wife, as well as a house belonging to a traditional chief in the community were burnt down during the ensuing hostilities.

It was gathered that before the destruction ensued, members of the usually peaceful community including women, men, youths had assembled to march on the Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) flow station in the locality.

The purpose of the "peaceful demonstration", THISDAY learnt, was to seek audience with officials of the Anglo-Dutch oil giant and lodge a formal complain about alleged "gross neglect and reckless abandonment" of Uzere community in the community's discharge of certain social responsibilities.

However, on reaching the gates of the facility, the protesters were said to have been denied entry by the security personnel stationed at the flow station, a situation that allegedly led to angry exchange.