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One Person Killed, Several Injured Over Land Dispute

Written by Tunde Oyekola, Osogbo Saturday, 12 June 2010

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One person was <u>killed and several</u> others injured in a fracas which broke out over disagreement on a parcel of land at <u>Erinmo-Ijesa in O</u>riade Local Government Council of Osun State.

No fewer than 20 persons have been arrested by the police in connection with the crisis. The dispute had been on since 1999 between the Tekobo and Ogundele families who have been laying claim to a large expanse of land in the area.

But on Thursday, the disagreement snowballed into free-for-all as the entire community was engulfed in a crisis.

The latest crisis was allegedly ignited by a member of the Tekobo family who has been claiming ownership of the land.

According to sources, the land dispute had been decided in favour of the Ogundele family by the court of law. The popular pastor, Kayode Abiara, of the Christ Apostolic Church (CAC), Agbala Itura, is a member of the Ogundele family.

The crisis broke out when police were invited and there was an attempt to effect arrest of one Pa Atofarati but youths in the community resisted them and the situation allegedly led to the vandalisation of a police van.

During the melee, a 45 year-old woman, Mrs Kehinde Adelu, who was said to be returning from farm, was hit by a bullet which killed her on the spot.

Another unconfirmed report said the woman was gunned down when policemen allegedly raided houses in the community and arrested people indiscriminately.

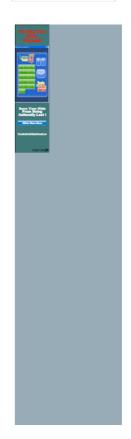
The daughter of the deceased, Mutiat Adelu, a 21-year-old student of College of Education, Ila-Orangun, lamented the killing of her mother, saying it would have negative impact on the family's life.

The state commissioner of Police, Mr. Olusegun Solomon, who confirmed the death of the woman, said the authorities had set up a panel on the killing.

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