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Hajia Fatima Hamza

Offa crisis heightens as poly shuts down

By Demola Akinyemi

ILORIN—AS the communal crisis between the people of Offa and Erinle entered its second day, the people of Offa have commenced a reprisal attacks on Erinle natives in Offa town.

Meanwhile authorities of the Federal polytechnic Offa have asked their students to go home to avoid casualties.

The Deputy Commissioner of Police in Kwara State, Alhaji Abdul Adeola Adeniji however, said peace has been restored in the troubled communities, confirming one death, and five injured.

As at press time yesterday,

the feed mill and sawmill in Idiogun area in Offa have been burnt while the surrounding buildings to the Federal Polytechnic were also vandalised. The damaged properties were conservatively put by the victims at over N900million.

The authorities of the federal polytechnic in Offa in a bid to discourage further casualties sent the students home yesterday following the death of a yet to be identified student in the clash.

On the reprisal attacks, *Vanguard* was reliably informed by 3pm yesterday that the Radio and Electronics shop at Wale junction, Osunte

road belonging to an Erinle native has been burnt down while search by irate youths in the town for other properties of Erinle natives within the town has commenced.

The Deputy Commissioner of Police in Kwara State Alhaji Abdul Adeola Adeniji in an interview with journalists yesterday said he could only confirm one death adding that he visited the five injured victims at a private hospital in Offa during his visit to the areas and to avoid the police being labelled as taking side in the crisis adding that depending on the situation more troops might be deployed to the areas.