

Five feared dead, 15 injured as families clash over piece of land in Ondo

By Dayo Johnson

AKURE—AS clash over a piece of land by two families in Ikare Akoko in Akoko North East area of Ondo State entered the second day yesterday, at least five persons were feared killed while no fewer than 15 persons sustained serious injuries.

Six persons have been nabbed by the police following its intervention in the killing and break down of law and order in the ancient town and transferred to the state police Headquarters in Akure

for interrogation.

Crisis over the piece of land, according to reliable source was dated back to 1960.

Vanguard gathered that sporadic gun shots rent the air as the two families lay claim to a piece of land just as many houses were vandalized by the warring factions.

The families of Odoso and Igbede in Ikare Akoko are at war over an expanse of land which is about eight kilometers between Akungba-Akoko and Ikare-Akoko.

An 84-year-old member of the Odoso Family was among those reportedly shot and killed.

Also said to have been hit by the raging bullets were a middle aged woman and a young man amongst others.

At least two persons were

said to have being shot and injured on Tuesday when the crisis erupted.

Vanguard gathered that yesterday's clash erupted as early as 7a.m. as the two families mobilized and engaged each other in another round of gun battle.

Speaking with newsmen, a nephew of the 84-year-old man, Mr. Akinola Dada alleged that the Igbedes imported thugs from the neighboring states to unleash terror on the members of the Odoso family.

A member of the other warring camp (Igbede) Mr. Lekan Idowu accused the Odoso family as the aggressors.

Idowu told newsmen that they started the fresh clash despite the fact that the matter was still pending in the court.

Engage unemployed Nigerians staff — COMMISSIONER

sional bodies including the Nigeria Bar Association (NBA), Nigeria Medical Association (NMA) and the Nigeria Institute of Public Relations (NIPR) for their members to take part in the conduct of the polls.

Ogun State Resident Electoral Commissioner, Chief Jacob Nwapa who disclosed

this in Abeokuta at the South West training of Electoral Officers said that the decision was taken so that ad-hoc staff engaged would not be compromised.

He said: "We do not want those who may likely be compromised because of their handicap, though not of their own making".