

One feared dead, 20 houses destroyed in a communal clash

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UMUAHIA — ONE person was feared dead and no fewer than 20 houses were destroyed during a communal clash at Ofeme community in Ohuhu, Umuahia North local government area of Abia State over tussle for the traditional ruler of the area.

Several other persons in the community are also reportedly missing, while many others have fled the area and have become refugees in other villages.

The victim was allegedly felled by the bullets of the men of the joint military/police personnel who were invited by one of the alleged mastermind of the clash who has allegedly been trying to impose himself on the community as its traditional ruler after the death of the former Monarch several years ago.

Saturday Vanguard learnt that it was one of the contestants to the throne that allegedly invited the security operatives who fired indiscriminately and in the process, destroyed many houses with many people fleeing the area.

President General of Ofeme Progressive Union, Chief Mike Ibeabunjo, and the village head of Umuezike, Chief Stephen Kalu, who expressed worry over the development in the community said the mayhem would have been avoided if all the parties to the crisis had followed the laid down guideline on the Ezeship succession in the community.

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