

Two killed in Rivers LG poll, two die in auto crash

By George Onah

PORT HARCOURT— THE death toll in last Saturday's Rivers State Local Government Election has risen to two just as an early morning accident, yesterday, on Aba Road in Port Harcourt claimed two lives when a commercial motorcyclist and his passenger were crushed by a trailer.

Vanguard gathered that one person had been killed at Eleme council area, Saturday, during the council election in which, 10 people were allegedly stabbed in Asari Toru council. But one of the stabbed men, said to be an Action Congress supporter died early yesterday.

A text message from the April governorship candidate of the party Prince Tonye Princewill sent to the Publicity Secretary of AC Chief Eze Chukwuemeka and forwarded to *Vanguard* read "just heard that one of the AC supporters stabbed by the PDP thugs in Asari Toru Ward 1 has now died.

Is this fair? Is this what I led people out for, what will I tell his mother? Same story repeated across other areas. Violence should never be rewarded otherwise this would not end", Princewill said.

In the same vein, Chairman of the state electoral commission Prof. Nimi Briggs said election would be cancelled in all the areas where violence erupted, insisting that results would be announced only in areas where there was no violence.

Speaking yesterday at the post-election briefing, Briggs said he was disappointed that people could still perpetrate such trouble "after all the commission had done" at stemming violence in the election.

Meanwhile election did not hold in Bonny Island over alleged harassment and attempts by pirates to hijack election materials, which ultimately led to the "very late arrival of election materials there."