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**BREAKING NEWS**

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Communal crisis looms over robbery, killing

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BY EMMA UNA

CALABAR— COMMUNAL conflict is brewing between the neighbouring communities of Ugep and Ekori in Yakkur Local Government Area of Cross River State, following the killing of a Yakkur man.

Sources said an Ugep man, George Bassey, was abducted on September 16, taken to Ekori, robbed of his motorcycle and killed.

The source said: “His body was found abandoned in an uncompleted building, while his motorcycle was missing.”

The discovery of the body in Ekori allegedly led to tension, with Ugep people mobilising to engage the Ekori people the next day, Tuesday, which caused several Ekori people to flee their homes.

Mr. Rekpene Bassey, Security Adviser to Governor Liyel Imoke of Cross River State, said it was “an isolated case of stealing and in such cases when the victim dies, tension would be generated among the family of the person.”

He said one person had been arrested in connection with the case, while the police are on the trail of others.

Bassey said: “Meanwhile, the police and other security elements have been deployed in the area to ensure there is no breakdown of law and order and the tension generated by the incident has died down significantly.”

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