

Vanguard

Opening a Skye Global account is now just a click away.

Get Started:

<https://accounts.skyebankng.com>



BREAKING NEWS

TRANSLATE:::

Select Language ▼

APC, PDP clash: One person killed, others injured

on June 09, 2014 / in [Politics](#) 12:23 am / [Comments](#)

BY Gbenga Ariyibi AND DAPO AKINREFON

AN exercise by the APC to sweep out the footmarks of President Goodluck Jonathan and those that followed him to last Saturday's PDP rally in Ado-Ekiti was cut short yesterday by violence between supporters of the two parties.

At least one man died in the fracas between the supporters of the two parties with both the PDP and the APC remarkably, claiming the deceased as a supporter of each party.

Trouble, started yesterday when members of the APC trooped out as early as 8 am to embark on what they described as a 'sensitization rally'.



<http://dvsl3w2q45hb8.cloudfront.net/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Ekiti-Riot.jpg>

They were armed with brooms, the symbol of their party, with which they used in cleaning the streets of the supposed footprints of the president and his entourage after the PDP rally of last Saturday.

In the process, they had an encounter with members of the PDP at Ijigbo Roundabout, where cudgels, axes, machetes and other dangerous weapons were freely used.

In the ensuing melee, a yet to be identified middle aged man, who was at the back of a motorcycle during the time, was hit with a bullet on the head.

Scene of the clash between APC and PDP supporters in Ado-Ekiti

Subsequently, the police and other security agencies swiftly moved in to curtail the

situation.

Eight persons have so far been arrested.

Information about the ugly development was said to have reached the state governor, Dr Kayode Fayemi, who in turn personally visited the scene of the incident.

The governor and the State Police Commissioner, Mr. Felix Uyanna were said to have engaged themselves in a hot argument after the incident.

APC, PDP trade blames

The APC and PDP leaders yesterday shifted blame on the doorsteps of one another as the aggressor.

Chairman of the state APC, Chief Jide Awe, while addressing the press, blamed the clash on the alleged bias of the Police against his party.

He also accused the State Mobile Police Commander, Mr. Gabriel Selenkere of allegedly using live ammunition which killed a loyal member of his party.

Awe further alleged that the Commander personally fired tear gas canisters at the governor, Dr Fayemi, after he rushed to the scene of the incident when briefed by his party.

He called on the Inspector-General of Police to effect the immediate transfer of the duo out of the state within the next 24 hours or be ready for the consequences.

But the state chairman of the PDP, Chief Makanjuola Ogundipe faulted APC's claim, saying it was indeed the APC members who provoked the clash. According to him, APC members embarked on a rally in the town (and) provoked the violence by attacking a motorcyclist, who was carrying a passenger that wore a T-shirt with Ayo Fayose's inscription.

The PDP chairman claimed that shortly after the motorcyclist's passenger was killed, his killers quickly removed the Ayo Fayose T-shirt on him and replaced it with an APC T-shirt in order to suggest that it was one of their members that was killed by PDP.

Police reacts

In its reaction, the Police Command absolved itself from the alleged shoot out.

In a statement by the Police Public Relations Officer, Mr Victor Babayemi, the police said when the APC was carrying on the exercise to sweep off the footprints of PDP members that they had an encounter with PDP members during which dangerous weapons were freely used.

Babayemi explained that the Police Commissioner, Mr. Uyanna and the state Director of State Security Service had earlier warned the governor, Dr Fayemi not to visit the scene of the clash which according to him, he ignored.

Considering the situation on ground, the Commissioner of Police and the state Director of SSS reached out to the governor through his ADC and Chief Security Detail not to visit the scene until the situation has been brought under control. However, the advice was not heeded.

Normalcy restored

Meanwhile, normalcy has returned to the troubled area while anti-riot Policemen and other security agencies patrolled the