

One dead, as cult war rages in Ogun

By Esther Onyegbula

CULTISTS have shot dead a 32-year-old man, identified as Oluwaseun Adebayo, at Eru-Oloja, Mowe, Ogun State.

It was gathered that the victim was going home when he was ambushed by three gunmen, who came on a bike.

Vanguard learned that the assailants trailed Adebayo from Lotto to Eru-Oloja, shot him in the head near a bush in the community primary school and fled.

According to an eyewitness, Leke Sadiq, the victim's corpse was abandoned at the scene till the next day.

He said: "The incident caused panic in the area as residents fled their homes and absconded to neighbouring communities to stay with relatives and friends.

"If this killing is not checked, it could result to reprisals and turn the area to a battlefield for cultists.

Another resident, Iya Jomoke, lamented that the deceased was shot dead beside the only primary school in our area.

"Imagine that it was school hours, one of our children could have been hit by stray bullets. The man's bloodstained body was on the road overnight, and our children were made to see that gory sight. It was terrible.

"The deceased is said to be a member of the Aye cult group. All we are saying is that cultists should go into the bushes and fight, not where people are living."

It was gathered that members of the Eiye cult group, which allegedly dominated Simawa area, had been warned to stay off Eru-Oloja, and environs as rival cult groups were planning a reprisal attack, which had caused more tension in the area.

Ogun State Police Public Relations Officer, Muyiwa Adejobi, confirmed the incident, adding that police had intensified patrol in the area, which led to the arrest of two suspects.

He said the suspects would be charged to court.

Vanguard gathered that landlords in the area protested to Ogijo Police Division, and demanded an immediate arrest of the suspects, who were reportedly responsible for the killing.