

OBIARUKU—THE lingering land dispute between Amai and Ezhiokpor communities, Ukwuani Local Government Area, Delta State, has degenerated, following the discovery of the lifeless body of a 54-year-old man.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. Andrew Aniamaka, said, yesterday, that the deceased, an indigene of Ezhiokpor, was found dead "having been shot," along Ezhiokpor-Obiaruku Road on April 6, with his motorcycle by his side.

He said: "Every incident triggers the crisis," adding that Ezhiokpor people, suspecting that their son, identified as Mr. Sunday, was killed by indigenes of Amai, had on the same day attacked one Mr. C. Ossai, an Amai man, at Amai junction.

His words: "Luckily, he was rescued by some police officers, but angered that Ossai was rescued, they mobilised and attempted to set a building ablaze at Amai.

"The police are employing every measure; every legal means to douse the tension in the communities.

"It is our earnest hope that the situation does not degenerate into another Ogbe-Ijoh and Aladja crisis.

"We are calling on stakeholders to implore all war mongers to embrace peace," Aniamaka added.