

# 5 killed in Calabar, Bayelsa clashes

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**TWO** suspected cultists were allegedly killed during a cult clash in Ugep community in Yakurr Local Government Area of the state, according to the Police.

But, an eyewitness, Obeten Gift, who spoke with *Vanguard* said one of the suspected cultists was killed by an angry mob due to his many atrocities in the area.

"As we speak, the corpse is lying here. The boy, who is popularly called J-boy, has killed a lot of people in Ugep and he is into armed robbery as well.

"He has been terrorising Ugep and nearby communities because

he goes about with an AK-47 rifle and charms all over his body.

The Police Public Relations Officer, PPRO, in the state, DSP Irene Ugbo, confirmed the incident, yesterday, in Calabar, adding that "one was killed on Monday while the second victim was a likely reprisal but we want to get to the root of the matter."

Ugbo said one of the suspected cultists was killed on Monday, April 20, by a rival cult group, while the other was killed yesterday by an angry mob in the area.

She told *Vanguard* that the suspected cultist, who died, had been terrorising the community with arms and had wreaked a lot of havoc in the area before his untimely death.

Her words: "I can confirm to you that two suspected cultists have been killed in Ugep community. One of

them died yesterday (Monday), while the other was killed today (yesterday) by youths in the area.

"At this moment, the Divisional Police Officer in Ugep has not told me the different cult groups which they belong to. Our men have taken over the area and normalcy has been restored," she said.

Irene further hinted that the police were yet to make an arrest in the area but surveillance as well as investigation were ongoing.

## 3 killed in Bayelsa clash

Also, no fewer than three youths from Agudama and Akenfa communities in Yenagoa Local Government Area of Bayelsa State reportedly lost their lives in a bloody

clash over a land dispute in the state.

The incident, which has thrown the area into apprehension started last Friday, was brought under control due to the intervention of Governor Douye Diri, the state security agencies, including a visit by the state Commissioner of Police,

Trouble started when some youths from Agudama community on Friday allegedly beat and strangled a young man to death.

Some claimed the deceased was a member of one of the dreaded cult groups in the state, a development that triggered reprisal attack from the youths of the Akenfa community, who invaded and killed two youths from Agudama community.

In his reaction, the spokesman of the state Police Command, Asinim Butswat, also confirmed the incident, saying he was only aware of the death of one youth, adding that the situation has been brought under control.