

3 die, 4 hospitalised in Osun in suspected cholera outbreak

By Shina Abubakar

OSOGBO—There is palpable fear in Ede, Osun State as three persons reportedly died in the Hausa community in the town due to alleged outbreak of cholera.

Vanguard gathered that the victims, beggars, reportedly died between Monday evening and yesterday morning at the Oke-Gada area of the town, while four others were taken to the hospital.

Sources in the town said the incident was a result of food poisoning, claiming that about 15 beggars died after eating food given to them by unknown persons.

However, Serikin Hausa in Ede, Alhaji Gambo Ibrahim, said the incident was due to an outbreak of cholera within the community and only three persons died.

He said: "There is nothing like food poisoning in the community, it is the outbreak of cholera. Three persons died before they were taken to hospital, while four other persons were hospitalised.

"We have informed the state government about the development and health officials have visited the area and collected samples from both the dead and the sick victims. Only three persons died and I led their burial rites."

Also, the state Police Command spokesperson, Yemisi Opalola, confirmed that three persons died from the incident, adding that investigation is ongoing to ascertain the cause of their death.

Efforts to get a reaction from the state government proved abortive.