

Mob sets 9 houses, car ablaze in Delta over death of accident victim

By Ochuko Akuopha

UGHELLI—ABOUT nine houses, a Passat car and a motorcycle were reportedly set ablaze at Ewu, Ughelli South Local Government Area, Delta State by a mob over the demise of an accident victim in the community.

Vanguard gathered that the car was travelling to Orere community when it lost control while negotiating a sharp bend before ramming into an on-coming motorcycle, killing passenger on the spot.

Giving details of the incident, a community source said: "This whole thing started on Tuesday. The motorcycle was carrying the deceased and other passengers.

"The other passengers and the *Okada* rider survived but the man that was sitting in the middle died.

"After the incident, an angry mob mobilised and set the car and the motorcycle ablaze. The corpse was then taken to the mortuary.

"Towards the evening, they went and removed the corpse from the mortuary, took it to the compound of the father of the man that drove the car. They vandalised the storey building and put the corpse inside the house.

"Today (yesterday), they went to the compound, removed the corpse from the house and set the old man's storey building and a bungalow ablaze. They also burnt seven other houses belonging to members of the family of the person that drove the car."

Contacted, Police Public Relations Officer of the state command, Mr Bright Edafe, confirmed the incident, saying it was an accident, but could not confirm the number of houses burnt.