

death had been reported.

2 killed, one wounded as cultists go on rampage in Delta community

- As LG imposes curfew
- Everyone is living in fear — Resident

By Ochuko Akuopha

OBIARUKU—At least two persons were reportedly killed at Obiaruku, headquarters of Ukwuani Local Government Area, Delta State by suspected cultists.

The cult-related issues that have been lingering in the community, degenerated with the killing of a youth in the area.

The attacks, which began weekend, came after some police officers stormed a bar at nearby Obinomba community and reportedly shot dead a birthday celebrant.

The incident sparked a protest by youths and women of the community against what they described as the extra-judicial killing of the birthday celebrant.

A source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said: "It is a purely cult issue. As the police were killing the birthday celebrant in Obinomba, some cultists were killing the young man in Obiaruku.

"The following day, another person was shot in his barbing saloon in Obiaruku, but he survived the attack. Then in the early hours of today (yesterday) one other youth whose name was given as Zeky was shot dead in the community.

"Everybody is living in fear because there is so much tension in the town. This morning at about 8.30 am all shops were closed, okada were few, but all schools in the town were open. It was later that people started opening their shops. It is terrible."

Contacted, Police Public Relations Officer of the state command, Mr Bright Edafe, said "As of now, there is no tension in the place."

Edafe who could not confirm yesterday's killing said: "It is almost impossible because the patrol teams that are there are up to 10."