

3 killed as youths clash in A'lbom

By Chioma Onuegbu

UYO—THERE is tension in Afaha Oku, Ikpa community, in Uyo Local Government area of Akwa Ibom State as angry youths descended on two Hausa scrap metal dealers and burnt them to death for allegedly killing a youth of the area.

Vanguard gathered that the incident happened on January 2, 2022 at about 9:00am when many residents of the area had gone to church.

Sources from the area said the youth simply identified as Anietie, who was beaten to coma by the Hausa boys was rushed to the hospital immediately, but unfortunately died on the way.

A resident of the area who simply identified himself as Mr. Wisdom said, "What happened is that the person the two Hausa scrap metal collectors killed is an indigene of this Afaha Oku village.

"According to an eyewitness, Anietie went to collect his clothes from the Laundry that Sunday morning, while returning to his compound, he sighted the two Hausa scrap metal collectors, with some items they removed. There is also a welding shop in front of the compound.

"I learnt that he accosted them and asked them what they were doing in his compound and who gave them permission to remove things from the compound. So, the two Hausa boys beat him and he collapsed. When Anietie's brother who was inside the house saw what happened he raised the alarm.

"People now came out and caught the two scrap metal collectors. I learnt that the boy died on the way to the hospital. So when the news of his death got to the youths, they became angry, and descended on those two Hausa boys, threw them inside the gutter and burnt them to death.

"That was how those three people died in this area on Sunday. Security Agencies, the Army and Police arrived the scene of the incident immediately, because around 10am that I saw both the police and Army loaded in their trucks and patrolling the whole area"

Confirming the tragic incident yesterday, the Police Public Relations Officer, Mr Odiko MacDon regretted that the deaths would have been averted if both the youths of the area and scrap collectors had not taken the Law into their own hands.