

One dead, as leadership tussle tears Delta community apart

By Paul Olayemi

SAPELE— A leadership tussle in soil-rich Ugborhen community, Sapele Local Government Area, Delta State, yesterday, claimed the life of one person following a clash between members of rival parties.

It was gathered that some youths sustained injuries while scores of persons were said to have fled the community.

It was also gathered that the community's indigenes have allegedly been at loggerheads in the past two months after the community president was alleged to have committed some offences which they claimed was impeachable.

"The offence he committed was impeachable, we gave him time to clear himself and when he did not, the four quarters of the community replaced him with one Ikpen Boyitie, but today (yesterday) he brought his people to attack us and as I speak, they have killed the senior man's son." one of the community residents, who craved anonymity told *Vanguard*.

He said residents are fleeing the community and called on the state government to interfere.

However, Dr Nelson Ukoko, the Ugborhen Community President, whom the other faction alleged has been removed, said the deceased was killed by the other faction, noting: "He was attacked in his father's compound and butchered on May 21 when he went to the village for a peace talk."

He added that the deceased has been in coma since and he finally passed away this morning (yesterday). He also noted that the late person was the eldest man's son.