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Land Dispute Claims 6 In Oron

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MONDAY, 27 DECEMBER 2010 03:49 BERNARD TOLANI DADA UYO



No fewer than six people yesterday lost their lives, while unspecified number of houses were torched in an orgy of violence which engulfed two warring communities of **Eyo Abasi** and **Idua** in **Oron**, Oron local government area of Akwa Ibom state, over a parcel of land.

According to an eyewitness report, the two warring communities were at logger head over speculations that a parcel of land within the communities contains some quantities crude oil.

Sophisticated weapons including guns, locally made bombs, machetes' and petrol made explosives were said to have been freely used during the fracas which started late Saturday night .

Reports say many of the villagers, especially children , mothers and the aged were said to have fled their homes and relocate to Oron main town and other adjoining communities.

When LEADERSHIP visited the area, it was observed that some houses were still burning, while the entire **Eyo Abasi** community few meters to the main campus of Maritime Academy of Nigeria, has vacated their homes and relocated .

Unconfirmed reports say some hoodlums among the warring communities even attempted to forcefully enter the Academy, but were repelled by security men, as the fracas still continued till Sunday night .

The chairman of Oron Local Government council, Mr. Friday Okon could not be reached as at the time of filing this report .

When contacted, the state commissioner of police, Mr. Sanni Mogaji confirmed the incident. He said he has not been properly briefed on the matter, but that he is on his way to Oron to see things for himself.

"I heard about the fracas between the two communities and that some people even lost their lives in the **communal clash**. But, I have not been properly briefed, as I am speaking to you now I am on my way to the place" to access the situation", Mogaji stated

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