

Assailants shoot shawarma vendor dead in Lagos

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A shawarma vendor has been shot dead by some assailants suspected to be cultists at his shop located in the Mowo area along the Badagry Expressway, Lagos State.

PUNCH Metro learnt on Thursday from a source who did not want to be named due to the nature of the incident that it occurred on Wednesday night.

The source said the victim was in his shop when the attackers stormed the area and shot him dead on the spot.

The source said, “An incident occurred around MTN Bus Stop, Mowo area, along the Badagry Expressway, where a young man was shot dead.

“The victim, said to be a shawarma seller, was reportedly killed in front of his shop by unknown assailants. The incident may be cult-related.”

Similarly, an anti-cultism advocacy page on Facebook, NaijaConfra, identified the victim as Afeez and alleged that he was killed by suspected cultists.

According to the page, the attack stemmed from unresolved disputes between Afeez and a member of a cult group.

“After speaking with sources on the ground, NaijaConfra can now report that in yesterday’s attack around MTN Bus Stop, Mowo area, along the Badagry Expressway, Eiye cultists killed a man named Afeez.

“Neutral sources in the community informed NC that they never saw Afeez involved in cultism, but they gave different possible motives behind the attack.

“Some residents alleged that an Eiye cultist accused Afeez of having an affair with his wife, while other sources said Afeez had just bought a white Toyota Avalon car, and the issue might have been business-related,” NaijaConfra wrote.

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When contacted for a reaction on Thursday, the spokesperson for the Lagos State Police Command, Abimbola Adebisi, confirmed the incident in a telephone conversation with our correspondent.

She noted that reports indicated that the victim was hit from the back by a yet-to-be-identified assailant.

“According to reports reaching us, the victim was struck on the back of the head by an unidentified assailant. At this time, we cannot link the incident to any individual or group,” Adebisi said.

She concluded that an investigation has commenced into the incident

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“Investigation is currently ongoing,” the PPRO said. Cult-related killings have become recurrent in several parts of Lagos State.

PUNCH Metro reported in May that suspected cultists hacked a 28-year-old man, Olanrewaju Ogunyemi, to death in the Ilasamaja area of Lagos State.

The machete-wielding men were said to have stormed the community in search of Olanrewaju’s brother, whose identity had yet to be known, and when they could not locate him at his residence, our correspondent was told, they traced him to his workshop on Abeokuta Street.

In another *PUNCH Metro* report on September 9, suspected rival cult groups engaged in violent clashes that left two people dead in the Ibeju-Lekki area of Lagos State.

The Lagos State Police Command has consistently reiterated its commitment to curbing the menace through its continuous clampdown on suspected cultists.