

Hausa, Yoruba youths clash leaves POS operator, child dead in Ibadan

Sola Adeyemo,
IBADAN

The Ojoo area of Ibadan in Oyo State was on Tuesday and yesterday thrown into turmoil when a Yoruba POS operator stabbed by an Hausa man died in the process.

The crisis which erupted around 11 p.m on Tuesday spiraled into yesterday as ethnic youths on both sides clashed, hurling dangerous items at each other. The Yoruba youths who were enraged and engaged in protest yesterday alleged that some Hausa youths were shooting from their area and a child who was going to buy Indomie was hit by a bullet and he also died.

Security operatives including Military men, Police personnel and Amotekun Corps were seen with their vehicles maintaining order as at yesterday afternoon.

When the Police Public Relations Officer in the state, DSP Olayinka Ayanlade, was contacted to confirm the incident, he simply said, "The situation has been brought under control. The area is calm now."

A resident who gave account of the incident said, "There is an ongoing clash between Hausa

and Yoruba in Ojo presently. It was learnt that an Hausa person killed a Yoruba person yesterday night and Yoruba is retaliating now. We should mind our movement around Ojo now."

An account of the crisis as told by another man was that, "an Hausa Okada rider approached a POS man on Tuesday evening to collect some cash. The man had given cash to the Hausa man, but the transfer made was discovered not to have delivered to his terminal.

"The Hausa man was said to have told the POS man that he could leave his Okada and key with the POS man pending when the transfer would deliver and that he was not running away. The issue however degenerated to argument and some Hausa guys just emerged from somewhere, engaged the POS man in an argument and someone stabbed him. He reportedly died.

"The incident led to crisis as Yoruba and Hausa youths started hurling dangerous objects at one another. A witness said that the crisis which continued on Wednesday led to the death again of a Yoruba child who was hit by a bullet fired from the Hausa side," he said.