

3 killed as security operatives, drug peddlers clash in Katsina



Katsina— No fewer than three persons lost their lives following a clash between security operatives and suspected drug peddlers at Koraman Nayalle, Sabuwar Unguwa Quarters, in Katsina metropolis.

The incident reportedly began when security operatives attempted to arrest a suspected drug peddler identified as Uzairu, popularly known as Kuda, during which his mobile phone and suspected illicit drugs were confiscated.

Sources said Kuda later mobilised his associates in an attempt to retrieve his phone from the operatives, leading to a violent confrontation.

During the clash, which took place on Saturday, he was shot and later confirmed dead.

The development triggered anger and unrest in the area, escalating into widespread violence.

An outpost of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, NSCDC, with several motorcycles, was set ablaze during the unrest.

The neighbourhood remained tense, with residents living in fear of further violence, as authorities made frantic efforts to restore calm.

Confirming the incident, the NSCDC Public Relations Officer in Katsina State, Buhari Hamisu, said the situation had been brought under control.

He disclosed that following the initial clash, associates of the deceased attempted to vandalise another NSCDC and police outposts at Filin Kanada but were dispersed.

According to Hamisu, investigations are ongoing to determine the root cause of the clash, while residents have been urged to remain calm.

Similarly, the Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Abubakar Sadiq-Aliyu, confirmed the incident, noting that tensions escalated during the funeral procession of the deceased on Sunday.

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He urged members of the public to exercise maximum restraint and avoid taking the law into their own hands.