

Protest in Owo over driver's killing by police

OWO in Ondo State, erupted in violence yesterday following the killing of a commercial driver allegedly by the mobile policemen mounting road block in the area.

This followed a similar violence that occurred in Akure, the state capital, on Wednesday by taxi drivers over allegation of extortion by the leadership of the National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW).

The incident happened when the driver of a Toyota bus with registration ONDO XA630KAA, Mr Gbenga

From Babatope Okeowo, Akure

Ojuade, (aka Jogbo) refused to part with N200.00 allegedly demanded by the police at the road block at Iyere junction.

It is usual for drivers to always part with N20.00 whenever they are passing some police check points in the state.

However, *The Comet* learnt that the driver insisted on paying the usual N20.00 instead of the N200.00 demanded by the policeman.

The policeman, argued that since the vehicle was carrying goods, he must pay N200.00.

It was during the argument that the policeman shot and killed the driver.

The Comet learnt that the policemen at the checkpoint, seeing the driver slump and died at the impact of the bullet, fled and left the deceased in the pool of his blood.

On learning of the killing, the youth, commercial drivers and some students mobilised and attacked two police stations in the town.

Like the incident in Akure, social and commercial activities were paralysed for hours in Owo before policemen came from the state capital to restore normalcy to the town.

An eye witness told *The Comet* that the incident occurred at about 7am at Iyere junction on Isiogun Ute Road where a detachment of policemen usually mount road blocks.



Odudu, winner of the MTN
is Mr Femi Ayeni Executive
PHOTO: JOHN EBOHOTA