

Zaria's Hawan Daushe: One killed, policemen injured as gangs clash

Soon after Zaria's annual traditional *Hawan Daushe*, Wednesday evening, inter-gang brawl ensued resulting in the murder of one person, *Daily Trust* learnt.

Eyewitness accounts confirmed that the clash between the rival groups began after the *Hawan Daushe* durbar procession at the Gaskiya, Zaria round-about.

"The police had anticipated that such incidents are an annual occurrence. They mounted road-blocks at the round-about and other strategic areas. Some notorious youths have mistaken the annual *Hawan Daushe* as an

From Isa Sa'idu, Zaria

avenue to show their wits on one another. The person that was killed lived in Tudun Wada, Zaria. We learnt that he had left home vowing to kill as many members of his rival group as possible. Unknown to him, the other group were also fully prepared. When he accosted them with his knife, they stabbed him severally and left him writhing in a pool of his blood and later died on the spot," one Bello Yusuf, an eyewitness told *Daily Trust*.

According to Yusuf, the murder occurred around 8pm. He said apart from the killing,

many people, including some innocent passers-by, sustained various degrees of injuries.

Daily Trust had witnessed the beginning of the disorder at the Gaskiya round-about at about 7pm, Wednesday evening, but at that time police were in full control. The situation however turned sour afterward.

"When the gangs began to clash the police had made attempts to intervene but the rampaging youths overpowered them as a result of which they injured many policemen. The police had guns with them but they didn't shoot, probably to avoid the escalation of the crisis.