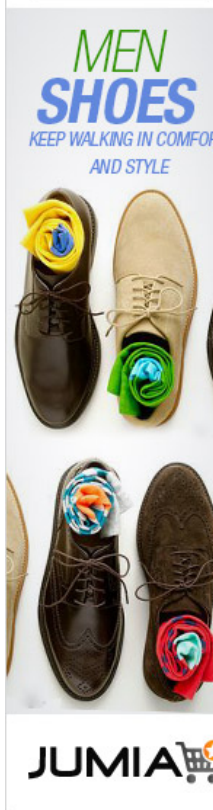


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## CYCLIST'S DEATH SPARKS OFF POLICE, MOTORCYCLISTS' CONFRONTATION AT KABUSA

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Written by Adam Umar Hits: 270

The detention of a motorcyclist, said to have been involved in the rescue of his colleague, who was allegedly attacked by suspected thieves at the Kabusa Police outpost in the Abuja Municipal Area Council, sparked off confrontation between the police and motorcycle operators in the area on Monday.

The motorcyclist was said to have recovered a motorcycle snatched from his colleague, who was killed by some hoodlums and took it to the police out post, where he was alleged to have been arrested and detained.

City News learnt that trouble started when other motorcycle operators heard about his detention and moved in groups to the outpost to demand for his immediate release.

Residents of the community, who spoke with City News on the incident yesterday, said the owner of the motorcycle, one Ja'afau Ganji, was killed in the early hours of Sunday by two suspected motorcycle snatchers around Pigba-Kasa village.

One of the residents said as the suspected snatchers were running, the detained cyclist, who witnessed the incidence from behind, raised an alarm and chased them along with two other motorcyclists.

The resident, who craved anonymity, said the seized motorcycle was recovered after the snatchers fell down and ran away.

He added that as the detained cyclist was trying to move the motorcycle, a policeman, who was passing by, demanded to know about the incident and that after he was briefed, he asked the man to ride the motorcycle to the Kabusa police out post, where he was held.

A community leader in the area, who played a vital role in calming the situation, Malam Abdullahi Saleh, said trouble started, after the motorcycle of the slain Okada rider was sighted at the station on Monday, when relatives of the deceased went there to report about him missing.

"They were informed that the motorcycle was brought to the station from somewhere around Pigba-Kasa village, and on getting there, they found the remains of the deceased inside a farm. "Members of commercial motorcyclists later stormed the police out post after they learnt that, a cyclist who chased the two men suspected to be killers of their member, was held at the outpost while reporting the incidence.

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"I am not happy with the way the motorcyclists attempted to take the law into their hands, but the police have done a wonderful job by releasing the suspect along with the motorcycle, which had calmed the tension. The same motorcyclists handed over the man back to the police as demanded by the police reinforcement team from Apo division.

He said the police gave a report to the relatives of the deceased to enable them convey his remains to Sabuwa Local Government Area of Katsina State, where he hailed from, for burial.

When contacted, FCT police spokesperson, Deputy Superintendent Hyelira Altine Daniel, confirmed the incident, saying that the arrested cyclist was only being held by the police to assist in the investigation and that he has since been released on bail.

She said investigation into the case is ongoing.

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