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# Oyo shuts Bodija market as police, butchers clash claims 2

By Jeremiah Oke, Ibadan | Publish Date: Jun 29 2018 2:24AM

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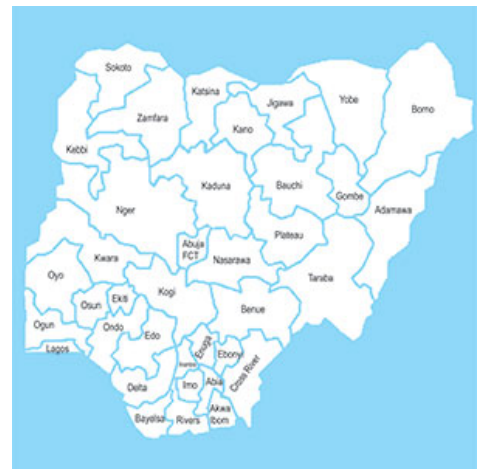
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Butchers and men of the Oyo State Police Command clashed yesterday over the former's reluctance to relocate from Bodija market in Ibadan to a new market in Amosun village, Akinyele local government.

Eyewitness told Daily Trust that the ripple effects spread to the other sections of the market as traders and other customers fled for their lives.

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While the clash lasted two people were said to have been gunned down by the police for allegedly attempting to burn down the police station in the market, the state Police Commissioner, Abiodun Odude told journalists.

However, other marketers said between five and eight people may have been killed. Three vehicles parked within the station premises were burnt down by the irate butchers while Okadas and other valuables including cattle were affected.

Meanwhile, the Oyo State government has shut down the market for security reasons.

The Aare Laatosa Local Council Development Area (LCDA) Chairman, Mr. Adekunle Oladeji, said the closure is to guard against the escalation of the violence to other parts of the state.

Mr. Yinka Fatoki, Executive Secretary Bureau for Investment Promotion and Public Private Partnership, said the butchers were notified about the relocation but maintained that a number of them were resisting the move to the new site, which is about 30kms from Bodija market.

Also, Alhaji Lateef Olagoke, Secretary, Butchers Union in the state, who represented their State Chairman, Pa Lasisi Alagufon, regretted the clash and loss of lives and property.

Speaking, Alhaji Buliamin Elesinmeta, Butchers South West coordinator, regretted appealed for calm.

The Bodija market leader, Alhaji Ismail Jimoh, implored the state government to calm the fraying nerves and allow other traders the opportunity to reopen within 24hours to safeguard their perishable products.



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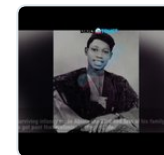
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