

# Four feared killed as NURTW, drivers clash in Lagos

**A** GAIN, a bloody clash  
yesterday afternoon  
occurred between commercial drivers and members of the National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) at Egbeda, a Lagos suburb in which four persons were allegedly killed.

Yesterday's incident caused a major pandemonium in the area with people scampering for safety as the clash spread to Iyana-Ipaja.

Addressing journalists on the cause of the mayhem where all sorts of dangerous weapons were freely used, the Lagos State Police

*By Oditia Sunday*

Spokesman, Mr. Olubode Ojajuni said: "The fighting began when one of the commercial bus drivers refused to pay N20 to a NURTW member. This led to a heated argument and fight, which led to the two men sustaining serious injuries."

Ojajuni added: "The NURTW member was taken to a private hospital while the driver was rushed to a public hospital. The drivers protested and got their other colleagues to join them apparently to put an end to the extortion by NURTW mem-

bers. That was what led to the bloody clash."

Ojajuni noted that policemen at Egbeda went to the scene and restored order in the area.

*The Guardian* learnt that four persons were feared killed at the Egbeda Bus Stop while many others wounded.

However, the police spokesman said they were only aware of injuries sustained by some persons and denied that anybody died.

Clashes between factions in the NURTW and commercial bus operators have led to a number of deaths in the last three months.

The state NURTW chapter had on February 1, 2007 refuted allegation that its members were threats to the conduct of peaceful polls in April and had vowed that it would not derail the elections.

The union leader, Alhaji Saka Saula, had said during the press briefing organised by the group at Abule-Egba: "The state council of NURTW in Lagos State is not affiliated to any political party and shall not be affiliated to any one. We refuse to be dragged into politics of any sort. We cannot be used by any politician."