## Cult war: Pandemonium as three die in Lagos ahead of 7/7 initiation date

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Cultism

There was pandemonium, yesterday, following the death of three yet –to–be identified persons in a bloody rival cult war in Shomolu-Bariga area of Lagos State.

The Guardian gathered that one of those inflicted with bullet injury during the gun duel is now in coma at an undisclosed hospital.

Although the cause of the clash could not be immediately ascertained, sources attributed it to the raging war of supremacy between the Neo-Black Movement aka Aye Black Axe and the Eiye Confraternity.

A resident, who pleaded anonymity, said: "The sporadic shooting started last night around Idi-Aba area, known to be a hideout of notorious cultists and a major base for drug dealers.

"It spreads towards Akilo, Sungas, and inwards Olorunkemi street in Shomolu area, where innocent passersby sustained injuries."

The source added that the Wednesday night clash was a warning signal that they are poised to wreak more havoc on July 7 to mark their yearly 7/7 celebrations.

The cultists had, last week, asked residents to prepare for what they never knew would claim three lives.

Consequently, residents are calling on Lagos State Commissioner of Police, Idowu Owohunwa to come to their rescue because the cultists have sent a message to some areas that they will "avenge the killing of their colleagues today as part of their 7/7 celebration, no matter what."

At press time, spokesperson for Lagos Police Command, Benjamin Hundeyin, had neither responded to text messages sent to his telephone line nor picked his calls, though his phone rang out severally.

Recall that Lagos State has recently been a theatre of cult wars leading to the death of 14 persons in five months.

The police also paraded 17 suspects recently, arrested in Ikorodu, Badagry and Isolo.

Consequently, Owohunwa charged the tactical teams to ensure that activities of cultists in the state were brought to the barest minimum.