

Eight Feared Killed In PH Cult Clash

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No fewer than eight persons were feared dead Friday night after a bloody clash between two rival cult groups in Port Harcourt, the Rivers State capital.

Unconfirmed reports indicated that among the dead were three policemen that tried to intervene in the fracas between the rival cult groups.

There were conflicting reports on what was responsible for the tragic incident that caused pandemonium around the Mile 1 market area late evening Friday.

One version of the report indicated that a cult group

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was in a procession probably for the burial of its member when its rival caught with it at the Emenike Bus Stop and unleashed mayhem, resulting in the death of youths from both camps.

But another version said one of the cult groups chased members of a rival gang on a motorbike to the Mile 1 area and when they caught up with

them, they reportedly sprayed them with bullets.

Sources said the cult members waited to confirm that their opponents were dead before they took to the street shooting sporadically into the air.

The stampede resulting from the shooting spree caused heavy panic as shop owners around the area locked up their stores while motorists made sudden u-turns to escape from

the fighting.

Policemen from the Mile 1 Police Station were said to have moved to the scene and exchanged fire with the cultists.

Eyewitnesses confirmed that the policemen took some dead bodies away in their patrol van.

The state police boss, Mr. Felix Ugbaudu confirmed the incident but could not give details on the casualty figures and the identities of those that were killed.