

# Ebonyi: Motorcyclists Protest Killing Of Colleague By Police Over N50

By **Chijioke Agwu** - April 27, 2018



*The deceased (left) and the protesting motorcyclists*

**Abakaliki** – Motorcyclists numbering over 600 on Thursday morning staged a protest in Abakaliki the Ebonyi State capital over the gruesome murder of one of their members on Wednesday night by a police man.

The Okada riders who barricaded some major streets in Abakaliki demanded instant justice for their deceased colleague.

They condemned what they described as police harassment, intimidation, extortion and killings of members by the police in the name of official duties and called on the Ebonyi State government and all relevant authorities to ensure justice for their late colleagues.

An unidentified police officer had on Wednesday night shot and killed a commercial motorcyclist along Water Works Road for allegedly refusing to part with N50 bribe.

The yet to be identified okada rider, was accosted by police officers of the anti-kidnapping squad of Ebonyi State Police Command at Anan World junction by Water Works Road.

A source who witnessed the incident told newsmen that the deceased Okada rider in his 20s was carrying a female passenger when he was flagged down by the police officers.

“When they stopped him, they demanded for their usual N50 but he gave them N20 and wanted to drive off when one of them opened fire on him. The bullet shattered his head and he died instantly,” said the witness.

The incident had caused pandemonium along the road as residents along the adjoining streets gathered and attempted to lynch the officers. They also used tires to set bonfires on the road.

But the arrival of a new detachment of police officers to the scene saved the day as they used teargas to dispel the crowd while also shooting sporadically into the air to scare them away.

It could not be immediately ascertained if the female passenger of the slain motorcyclist was also hit by the bullets of the police officers.

Meanwhile, Governor David Umahi has called for the arrest and prosecution of the trigger-happy police officer.

In a statement in Abakaliki by his Chief Press Secretary, Emmanuel Uzor, governor Umahi condemned the act and called on the police authorities to ensure justice for the deceased.

## Comments

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