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By Our Reporter | Published 29/05/2009 | News | Unrated

Four fans of Barcelona Football Club of Spain were crushed by a bus in Ogbo, Rivers State on Wednesday while celebrating the club's victory over Manchester United of England in the European Champions League final.

The bus was said to have been driven by a fan of Manchester.

In Lagos, the police averted a clash between supporters of both clubs,

Rivers' Police Command, which confirmed the death of the four, said they were killed after an enraged driver ploughed his bus through a crowd of jubilating fans.

Police spokesperson Rita Abbey told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN)in Port Harcourt, the state capital, that the incident occurred when an enraged Manchester United fan drove his bus into a crowd of about 20 FC Barcelona supporters, killing four on the spot.

Mrs. Abbey said 10 others, who were injured, were being treated in a hospital in Oqbo, Ahoada East Local Government Area.

Barcelona won the game 2-0 scoring a goal in each half of the match at the Olympic Stadium, Rome.

Also, prompt intervention of the Rapid Response Squad (RRS) averted a bloody clash between fans in Mushin, Lagos.

NAN reported that jubilating fans of Barcelona were out in their numbers after the Spanish side clinched the UEFA Champions' League title in Rome, taunting their United counterparts.

They released fireworks to celebrate their victory, moved to areas where fans of the English club frequent, disrupting traffic on the Agege Motor Road.

The high point of the jubilation occurred when some of the fans decided to climb the rear bumper of a commercial bus driven by a Manchester United supporter.

Unable to take what he believed was a humiliation, the driver applied his brakes and the Barcelona fans fell, resulting in a fight.

Passers-by, especially women, were molested while bottles were freely used in the ensuing fight.

Women at Ojuwoye Market hurriedly packed their wares and fled.

Some of them sought the company of their male colleagues to avoid molestation from the rampaging youths.

The RRS unit of the police arrived just when the fight was almost getting out of control, firing into the air to disperse the crowd.

A police inspector, who led the squad, told NAN on condition of anonymity that they were aware that Mushin was a flashpoint and had been patrolling the area to halt any incident after the match.

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