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One feared dead in Lafiaji gang war

Posted By: Basirat Braimah on: March 22, 2016 In: City Beats No Comments



ONE person was feared killed in a gang war which raged between Saturday and yesterday in Lafiaji, Lagos Island.

The fight started around 1am on Saturday.

Eyewitnesses said Louis, Simpson, Hawley, Igbosere, Pike, Okesuna, Foresight and Agbole streets were no-go areas during the mayhem. All is now calm.

The Nation learnt that over 50 vehicles were also destroyed during the clash.

An elder in the community, Mr Fredrick Joseph, said the gangsters shot at one another.

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He said some money given to the gangs by a politician led to the fight.

"I think both groups did not share the money equally; that was what caused the fight. It was until soldiers were deployed to our area that everything died down. This incident has been happening for a while but the police are yet to treat the situation. When they came on Saturday, they didn't make peace but instead they were disturbing motorcyclists and tricyclists. It was not until soldiers came that the situation died down. If the government can deploy soldiers to their hideouts, then our community can be peaceful. It is just unfortunate that they keep arresting the innocent. If those involved can be arrested, I think it will be the best; so whatever happens to them in prison will end there," he said.

A pupil, Simiat Alabi, said she had left home for school before she realised there was a fight.

Simiat said the school was scanty as many pupils, including teachers, did not come.

She said: "We did not do much at school today. We were asked to go home at exactly 2pm instead of 3.30pm. We walked peacefully while returning from school because soldiers were on standby."

Road Transport Employers Association of Nigeria (RTEAN) Chairman Hammed Okunuga said peace would reign in the community if those involved are arrested.

"Everyone in the community knows those involved but they are scared to talk. If they are arrested, they will make peace in prison. I haven't been able to go out let alone bath because of the situation. They are fighting for supremacy. Everyone wants to be in charge but it is not possible. If the government can bring policemen, the right people will be pointed at and peace will come back to our community. The Divisional Police Officer attached to Lion building was almost stabbed on Sunday. The policemen tried their best to manage the situation. These touts carry more guns than a police officer," he said.