

# Tension as gunmen kill six in Anambra

**N**O fewer than six persons have been killed in Awka, Anambra State capital by suspected gunmen.

*...Police: it's cult war not gunmen attack*

Nwanosike Onu, Awka

in the capital city.

Sources who spoke with The Nation said the clash followed the high rate of taxes given to tricycle operators in the State by the Anambra State government. "The shootings in those areas were heavy and scared the residents who scampered for safety," the source said.

The gunmen, The Nation gathered were shooting non-

stop without any challenge, leading to the death of the six persons.

However, another source said they were cult groups who were in a supremacy battle.

While confirming the shootings, the Police spokesperson said police patrol had been intensified within the area and the entire Awka.

The PPRO said: "Following the sound of gun shots by Zik Avenue, Awka, police patrol

has been intensified in Awka.

"Preliminary information reveals that the cause of the shooting is as a result of cult related incident-clash.

"The situation is closely monitored and further development shall be communicated."

Ikenga, therefore, enjoined the good people of Anambra to remain security conscious and continue to "provide the Police with useful information that would assist to effectively track down criminal elements in our society."

The incident took place early hours of Saturday, along the popular Zik Avenue and its environs.

But the State Police Public Relations Officer, Ikenga Tochukwu, says they were not gunmen, but rather, a clash of rival cult groups.

He said the command had deployed troops to douse tension