

One dies as rival cults clash in Kwara



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Battle for supremacy between rival cult groups has claimed the life of a 23-year-old commercial tricyclist in Ilorin, Kwara State.

The deceased, simply identified as Samad, was allegedly murdered by suspected members of another cult group who dumped his body in front of a mosque at Abayawo, on Monday.

Eyewitnesses said that the assailants shot the tricyclist dead, removed his left eye and chopped off his left hand.

The clash was said to have started around 12am, causing apprehension, sleeplessness among residents of Abayawo and Gambari communities while it lasted.

An Abayawo resident revealed that some fiercely-looking young men had stormed the community in tricycles at about 9pm on Sunday, armed with guns and other dangerous weapons.

He said their presence caused pandemonium as residents scampered to safety while the invaders shot sporadically from the moment they arrived the community.

Another source said Samad was killed around 4am during an ambush by the cultists.

“It was while Samad was trying to manoeuvre his way through a corner that he was chased and shot. After he was confirmed to have died, the assailants allegedly dragged the corpse to the main road in front of the mosque. His left eye and left hand were removed and taken away.”

Family members, it was gathered, reportedly took the remains of the deceased to Moslem cemetery, Osere, for burial.

Contacted, the state police command spokesperson Ajayi Okasanmi, SP, confirmed the incident.

He said: “Though they didn’t report the case, when we heard about it, our men went there but his corpse has been taken away for burial by the family before their arrival.”