

Police, students clash in Saki town

From BAYO AKAMO,
Ibadan.

HELL was let loose in the ancient town of Saki in Oyo state as students and the police were engaged in a bloody clash following the death of six persons including three students of the Polytechnic, Ibadan (Saki campus) in an auto-crash.

New Nigerian gathered that the bloody clash took place late Tuesday when a commercial bus said to be travelling to Saki from Lagos was involved in an auto crash as a result of an alleged shooting of the driver of the bus by one of the policemen on a road-block to the town.

It was learnt that the driver was said to have died immediately lost control of the vehicle resulting in a fatal crash during which five of the passengers in the commercial bus including three students of the Polytechnic lost their lives.

The commercial vehicle was said to have summerrulted many times before ending in one of the ditches along Saki road.

Sources in the town stressed that few minutes after the ghastly accident, news filtered into Saki township

with students of the Polytechnic trooping out to protest the alleged shooting of the driver by the police.

The protest, it was gathered, continued till Wednesday with the police and the students engaging in serious bloody clash which has already left scores of people in the town injured.

New Nigerian gathered that the students during their protest sacked the police station in the town which led to further violence that spread around the town forcing shops and markets in the town to be closing down.

Our sources said the police allegedly fired into the air to scare the rampaging students a development which the source stressed made people in the protest area to flee their various homes for safety.

As at the time of sending this report, it was learnt that the students and the police were still fighting in some parts of the town.

Contacted for comment on the incident, Oyo State Commissioner of Police, Mr. Jonathan Johnson said that he was in Abuja for an official function and could not confirm the incident.

But the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Mr. Tunji Caulcrick when contacted confirmed the incident saying the police "is presently investigating the matter".

The Deputy Police Commissioner declared that the fracas was as a result of an auto-crash on the Saki road which was allegedly caused by the police.

According to him, reports from Saki said that policemen

allegedly caused an accident when they were pursuing a vehicle conveying students.

Mr. Caulcrick however added that the authenticity of the reports could not be confirmed, saying that investigation into the incident was continuing.

He noted that the reports the police command received said that only four people had died so far in the crisis.

GSS-Fadankaje gets n

IN its continued efforts to compliment government's efforts in education development, the Parents Teachers Association, (PTA), Government Secondary School Fadan Kaje has purchased a power generating set worth #1 million for the school.

Speaking during the commissioning ceremony at the school premises at Fadan-Kaje in Zangon Kataf Local Government Area of Kaduna State, the Director, Zonkwa Education Inspectorate Division, Mrs. Habeba Zakka commended the efforts of the PTA, regretting however,

that politicians do not give the educational sector the desired attention in terms of funding and supervision.

In his speech, the principal of the school, Mr. Tambari Tiokpak thanked the PTA for employing and paying the salaries of teaching staff and three security guards saying, the PTA was alive to its responsibilities.

He appealed to the association not to relent in its efforts directed at raising the dwindling standard of education, as Government alone can not shoulder the responsibilities.

Speaking earlier, the PTA