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Youths barricade Bauchi-Jos highway to protest okada rider's death

Written by Saliu Gbadamosi - Bauchi | Wednesday, 30 October 2013 00:00 | font size | Print | Email | Be

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YOUTHS of Miya Barkatai village on the Bauchi-Jos highway in Toro Local Government Area of Bauchi State on Tuesday barricaded the highway to protest the killing of an Okada rider, simply identified as Nasiru, by the driver of an Opel Vectra car.

This caused a serious traffic gridlock on the road with several motorists and passengers trapped in the hold up for many hours before normalcy was restored.

An eyewitness, who was among the several trapped in the ensuing gridlock, informed the Nigerian Tribune that the motorcyclist was knocked down by the Opel Vectra driver, who took to his heels on seeing what he had done.

He added that, "When the driver knocked and killed the Okada rider, he ran away for his dear life and abandoned his car, the angry youths then burnt down the vehicle."

A top security source told journalists in Bauchi that it took the intervention of the police and community leaders from the area before the angry youth could open the road for motorists to continue with their journey to their various destinations.

According to the source, "the police and community leaders were talking to the angry youths as of the time he was speaking with journalists with a view to persuading them to open the highway to allow free flow of traffic.

Confirming the incident, the Bauchi State Police Command's Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Haruna Mohammed, stated that the youth protested the killing and blocked the road, adding, however, that, "the matter has been resolved and police have opened the road."

Mohammed appealed to motorists to always obey traffic rules and regulations while on the road, emphasising the need for all road users to always exercise caution since life has no duplicate.





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