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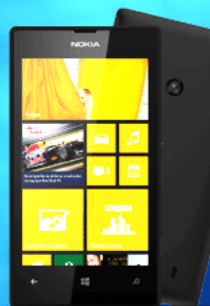
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Cultists' clash claims 4 lives in Ilorin

Written by Biola Azeez - Ilorin | Friday, 10 January 2014 00:00 | font size | Print | Email

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Four people were feared killed in a clash between two rival cult groups at Baboko area of Ilorin metropolis, Kwara State, on Thursday morning.

The Nigerian Tribune gathered that the clash started on Wednesday evening and snowballed into greater dimension as at least seven vehicles were destroyed, while all shops around the area were hurriedly closed for fear of being attacked.

It was gathered that the corpse of one of the victims of the clash, a young boy, Babatunde Sulyman, was taken to the Specialist Hospital, Sobi, Ilorin at about 9.45a.m. yesterday in a Sienna space bus with registration number Lagos BDG 330 XH.

It was also gathered that the corpse was accompanied by police officers who drove in an Hilux pick up van with registration number NPF 2525 C belonging to the Police 'C' division.

"As police were waiting for the corpse to be admitted into the hospital's mortuary, information reached them that another three persons have been killed at the same spot- Baboko," an eyewitness said.

Though the immediate cause of the clash could not be ascertained, a police officer said under condition of anonymity that the cultists were fighting over a young lady.

A relation of one of the victims, however, said that the hoodlums killed his brother who came from Adabata area of the town.

He said that the hoodlums opened fire indiscriminately in the building where the deceased slept and he was hit by the bullet and died instantly.

The relation also said that another person who was also inside the building only sustained bruises on his cheek.

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Okasanmi Ajayi, confirmed the death of one Sulyman Babatunde in the incident.

He said the police had brought the situation under control and were making efforts to arrest the perpetrators.

"As at yesterday when this started, about seven Hilux Jeeps of combat policemen were sent there and they are still there as I speak.

"There was a kind of misunderstanding between two groups of miscreants and in the course of the trouble, one of them, Babatunde Sulyman. was seriously injured and was rushed to the hospital but

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unfortunately he died this morning.

"About 17 or thereabout number of people have been identified to be responsible for the trouble and we are on the verge of getting them arrested.

"Investigation is still on and any moment from now, you will hear the details.

Every effort had been put on ground to make sure that nothing of such happens again. As I speak now, the place has been bombarded with enough security," the PPRO said.

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