Lagos community rejoices as police arrest killer cultists

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They'll be charged for murder —CP

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Residents of New Mebamu community in Iba Local Council Development Authority in Lagos State erupted in joy on Friday when a suspected cultist, Dele Ajibade, a.k.a. Super and two others were arrested in the early hours of the day, about an hour after the murder of one Sina (surname unknown) by the suspects.

Other suspected cultists reported to have participated in the murder are said to be currently on the run.

They include one Ahmed, who was said to be his gang's armourer, Power, Junior and others whose names were unknown.

All of them are said to be members of Black Axe Confraternity who always clashed with their rivals in Eiye Confraternity.

The residents have also appealed to the state government to ensure the prosecution of the arrested cultists and keep them away from the community.

It was gathered that Super, one Kelly and an unnamed third suspect in company with others attacked an okada rider known simply as Sina between 10.00 p.m. and 11.00 p.m. on Thursday when he was drinking at a beer joint.

Super and his group were said to have gone to the drink joint in search of a particular target who they could not find.

Though no one could say precisely why Sina was killed, a reliable source in the community said it was Ahmed who shot Sina on the order of Super, after which Super himself inflicted machete cuts on the deceased until he was cut into pieces.

But the community members defended Sina, saying he did not belong to any cult group. Saturday Tribune further gathered that the Divisional Police Officer in charge of Isashi Division, acting on information, stormed the hideout of the suspects in Super's father's house and arrested him where he hid under a tree. He was said to have attempted to scale a fence in a bid to escape arrest.

Speaking with Saturday Tribune on the condition of anonymity, a member of the community who spoke on behalf of others praised the boldness and determination of the Divisional Police Officer in charge of Isashi Division in arresting Super and his gang members.

"Before his arrest, Super had fear for nobody; not even the police. He was so bold that he and his gang members used to go about in the community with guns in broad daylight. The police and the government should help us arrest the remaining deadly cult members so that we can have peace in our community," the resident said.

Confirming the story, the Commissioner of Police in Lagos State, Fatai Owoseni, said he had directed that the suspects be transferred to the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS), Ikeja, for further investigations, after which they would be taken to the Homicide section for murder charges.

He said the number of arrested suspects had increased to four.

He also assured that his men would go after other suspected members of the cult group.