

Another 'mad man' set ablaze in Lagos, as police warn against jungle justice

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THE rising cases of jungle justice against suspected criminals continued in Lagos on Friday as a mentally-challenged man was lynched by angry residents of Mosalasi bus stop along the Lagos - Abeokuta Expressway.

This was just as another suspected ritualist, who posed as a mentally-challenged man was arrested with a long knife around the Sango under bridge by the police.

The police in the state, while confirming the latest jungle justice, bemoaned the increasing spate of impunity by residents, describing it as barbaric.

Saturday Tribune gathered that some residents of Mosalasi and Kollington bus stops, who were assisted by area boys had early Friday attacked a supposedly mad man in the area, for allegedly using mobile phone.

A resident, who simply identified himself as Baba Nla narrated to **Saturday Tribune** that "the mad man

sleeps around the back of the bus stop for some time now."

He continued that "early this morning, some people accused him of using a mobile phone as they descended on him and began to beat him."

Saturday Tribune gathered that policemen from a nearby police station, who arrived at the scene to prevent the mad man from being set ablaze, were chased away by the defiant mob.

It was late before the police could return to the police station to reinforce as the mob had killed and also set the man ablaze.

Meanwhile, worried by the spate of jungle justice on suspected persons being recorded in recent time, the Lagos State Police Command on Friday, warned residents to desist from engaging in such act, as it not only violates the laws of the land but also dents the image of the State.

The State's Commissioner of Police, Mr Fatai Owoseni who gave the warning in a statement, said that as much as there was no legal justification for jungle justice, in most cases, vital evidence that could aid the Police in the course of investigation were destroyed.

Owoseni listed recent cases to include the incident of August 8, 2017 at Ajala Bus-Stop, Ijaiye-Ojokoro where two persons suspected to be kidnapers/ritualists were completely burnt, while some buildings were vandalised.

He also referred to the incident of August 10, 2017 at Ile-Zik Bus Stop, along Old Abeokuta Road, where a mob attempted to carry-out jungle justice on some destitutes, suspected to be ritualists/kidnappers but were prevented by the quick intervention of the Police and other sister security agencies.