

# Metro

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... crime, security, court

## One killed as hoodlums' rival factions clash in Ibadan

We have arrested 46 — Oyo CP

BY OLUWATOYIN MALIK AND  
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THE city of Ibadan, the state capital of Oyo State was in the early hours of Monday thrown into pandemonium when hoodlums, said to belong to rival gangs at Oke Ado market and Born Photo/Akuro areas of the city, unleashed mayhem on the people and vandalised property, leading to the death of an unidentified person.

**Nigerian Tribune** learnt that the miscreants started the attacks about three days ago when they vandalised several vehicles of customers at a beer joint in the area.

They were said to have approached the owner of the joint, demanding for money.

stalls at the market until they were dislodged.

When the **Nigerian Tribune** carried out investigation into the cause of the mayhem, some police officers who spoke under anonymity said that no one could say precisely what prompted the hoodlums' actions.

But a resident, who also craved anonymity, told the **Nigerian Tribune** that the miscreants usually started trouble whenever they wanted to steal.

"They exhibit rivalry during celebrations — naming ceremony, carnival, graduation of apprentices and oth-

ers — with each gang trying to display superiority.

"After people must have run away from their shops and houses to avoid being caught between, the hoodlums would seize the opportunity to loot their goods and property," the resident said.

A reliable source also informed the **Nigerian Tribune** that an allegedly notorious hoodlum, identified as Toye, led one of the gangs in the Monday mayhem.

He was said to be armed and was pursued by the police but managed to escape.

Toye was arrested at Akuro

area of the city during similar mayhem in 2017 and was arraigned in court, but was reportedly granted bail in December 2017.

However, another version had it that the Monday mayhem was as a result of a clash between two factions of the Oodua People's Congress (OPC).

Investigations by **Nigeria Tribune** have it that a state chairman of one of the groups living at Oke-Ado market/Oke-Bola area had a misunderstanding with some members of the opposing camp at a party at the weekend. The confron-

tation, sources informed, continued until Sunday evening, while the two factions attacked each other's camp, deep into Oredein/Akuro area from Sunday evening till Monday morning.

Meanwhile, the state Commissioner of Police, Abiodun Odude, told the **Nigerian Tribune** that 46 suspects were arrested by the police over the mayhem.

He also confirmed that one dead body was recovered by the police.

Odude, who went around Oke Ado market, Foko, Born Photo, Akuro and Popoyemoja with the Dep-

uty and Assistant Commissioners of Police in charge of operations, the Iyaganku area Commander and Divisional Police Officer in charge of Iyaganku Division and other officers, assess the situation, vowed to make those found culpable face the full wrath of law.

According to the police commissioner, "there has been trouble here for about three days. The area has been attacking themselves for reasons known to them.

"We learnt that the hoodlums went to a woman who just opened a beer joint and demanded for money. When she did not give them, they destroyed all the vehicles parked by the joint.

"Since the last three days they have persistently

