

One killed, 15 motorcycles burnt as residents clash with motorcyclists in Lagos

OLALEKAN OLABULO - LAGOS

ONE person was killed in Agboyi area of Ketu in Lagos State during a clash between commercial motorcyclists and residents.

Also, no fewer than 15 motorcycles were set ablaze by the residents, who accused the motorcyclists of bringing the hoodlums who killed the deceased, who was a resident of the area.

The deceased was identified as a son of one of the community leaders; and was reportedly killed by some riverine area dwellers who invaded Agboyi on Monday, allegedly on the invitation of commercial motorcyclists.

A team of policemen from the Rapid Response Squad and a detachment from Ketu police station were, as of Tuesday evening, still trying to restore peace in the community.

Nigerian Tribune gathered that trouble started when the deceased, who just got a new motorcycle, was accosted by the commercial motorcyclists, who allegedly requested that he should register with them.

An argument was said to have ensued between them, prompting the deceased to call some youths in Agboyi.

A resident of the area, who identified himself as Samson, narrated that "the Agboyi boys beat the commercial motorcyclists and everybody thought that everything had ended."

"Surprisingly, some hoodlums from the riverine area invaded the community on Monday evening and attacked residents, before taking away the deceased."

"The situation became tense when his lifeless body

was discovered floating on the river."

The death of the man sparked off protests from other residents who attacked the commercial motorcyclists and set their motorcycles on fire.

Samson said: "the police were still trying to settle the dispute when the body of the deceased was discovered on the river; which

made the crisis to escalate."

As of Tuesday evening, heavy police presence could be seen at Agboyi and parts

of Alapere.

When contacted, the image-maker in charge of the state police command,

Chike Oti, said that he was not aware of the incident, but promised to find out and get back to the *Nige-*

rian Tribune.

But he could not do so as of the time of filing this report.

'Police arrested 150 suspected cultists, kidnappers in one year in Epe'

THE police in Lagos State said, on Tuesday, that they have arrested 150 suspected cultists and kidnappers in the last one year in Epe

community.

CSP Adeyeri Sunday, the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) in Epe, disclosed this to the *News Agency of*

Nigeria (NAN) in an interview at Epe.

Sunday said that the arrests were made between July 2017 and July 2018.

He said that the arrests were made from several locations in the locality, such as Okemagba area, Ita-opo, Poka, Temu, Papa, Noforija, T-Junction, Aiyetoro and Lagos road, among others.

"These arrests were made in the suburbs of Epe and also within the town."

"Most of the suspects were members of the 'Eiye', 'Aye' and the 'Buccaneers' confraternities."

"Some kidnappers too were also arrested alongside the suspected cultists. The suspected cultists perpetrated their evil activities in the bush, where they also recruited new members."

"These unholy acts were usually carried out between 11:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m."

"The kidnappers were arrested as they disguised to carry out their unholy acts," he said.

The DPO, however, commended the unflinching support of Governor Akinwunmi Ambode, the traditional rulers and other stakeholders in the community.

"The stakeholders made our arrests easier as they supplied us with useful information that led to the hideouts of the suspected cultists and kidnappers."

"I really appreciate their support because without that, it would not have been easy for us to effectively carry out our operations," he said.

Sunday also commended the technical and professional support of the Lagos State Commissioner of Police, Mr Imohimi Edgal.

He assured members of



An operative of the Rapid Response Squad (RRS) of the Lagos State Police Command, putting out fire from some motorcycles set ablaze during a dash between motorcyclists and residents of Agboyi area of Ketu in Lagos State on Wednesday. PHOTO: RRS

4 men who allegedly stole tipper truck in Lagos arrested in Niger

ADELOWO OLADIPO - MINNA

OPERATIVES of the Niger State Police Command have arrested a gang of suspected thieves which specialised in stealing tipper trucks.

Nigerian Tribune learnt that the suspects, who were based in Lagos, were nabbed by police detectives attached to Tafa Division after a tip-off.

The four suspects, identified

as Samson Audu (32), Philip Amodu (25), Safiu Amisu (29) and Ismaila Aburata (27), were reported to have stolen an Iveco tipper truck with registration number Lagos KTU 422 XP, belonging to a Chinese company in Lagos State, before bringing it to Niger State for sale.

A police source, who craved anonymity, as he was not authorised to speak on the development, told the *Ni-*

gerian Tribune that one of the drivers of the Chinese company, identified as Umar Haruna, diverted the truck from Lagos to Niger State with the view getting a buyer who would pay N3 million.

The source added that one of the suspects, Audu, who confessed to the crime during interrogation by the police, claimed that it was one Haruna, currently at large, who hatched the plan

to sell the vehicle and also involved other members of the gang.

Speaking with the *Nigerian Tribune*, Audu said "it was Haruna who asked us to get someone who would buy the truck for N3 million, so that we can share the proceeds."

"Haruna will be in a better position to explain where he stole the truck from."

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Muhammed Abubakar, con-

Man slumps, dies at bus-stop in Lagos