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Mob destroys security tower over death of tricycle operator in Plateau

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THERE was pandemonium on Sunday night at Dutse Uku area in Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State after a tricycle operator was killed allegedly by security operatives at the Security Tower station in the area.

It was gathered that there was a disagreement between the tricycle operator and the security operatives when the incident occurred.

A source close to the scene of the incident told the Nigerian Tribune that the tricycle operator was stopped by a combined team of policemen and vigilantes at the checkpoint at about 8:00p.m. but he refused to stop to avoid being arrested.

The source said the tricycle operator failed to stop because he had violated the 6:00 p.m order for all commercial tricycle operators to stop operation as part of ef-

forts to curb criminal activities within the metropolis.

It was gathered that one of the security men then shot at the tricycle operator who was already on the run, and the bullet hit him in the back, which led to his death.

Another source said immediately the tricycle operator was shot, "hoodlums at Rikkos went on the rampage and destroyed the Dutse Uku checkpoint, while the Lalong Security Tower at Dutse Uku was vandalised."

The death of the tricycle operator led to a clash between youths and security operatives in the area.

It was further learnt that the youth pulled down the security barricades and vandalised the checkpoint.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Alfred Alabo, confirmed the incident.

He said investigation had already begun to ascertain what actually led to the violence.