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## **Five policemen, two others feared killed in NURTW, OPC clash**

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Seven people, including five policemen were feared killed at the Iwo Road interchange, Ibadan, while several others were injured, on Thursday, during a clash involving members of the National Union of Road Transport Workers and the Odua Peoples Congress.

Some vehicles believed to belong to either the OPC or NURTW members were set ablaze around Mobil Area in the thick of the clash.

The battle was still raging around 7.30pm (when our correspondents left the scene), thereby making it impossible, even for the police, to ascertain the actual number of casualties, which was said to include a sausage roll hawker.

Trouble was said to have started around 5.30pm when one of the vehicles conveying members of the OPC going to Osogbo, Osun State, for the annual Osun Osogbo festival en route from Lagos ran into traffic congestion at Iwo Road.

The occupants of the vehicle, said to be mostly women, were said to have disembarked from the vehicle to clear the congestion for the advancing team of OPC when they had a brush with members of the NURTW.

Witnesses said that a female member of the OPC slapped one of the NURTW members for challenging them while clearing the congestion.

Annoyed with the action, the NURTW members were said to have mobilised and engaged the OPC team in a fight during which five OPC members were allegedly abducted.

In the ensuing free-for-all, members of the OPC were said to have pulled guns and initially shot into the air to disperse the drivers who had grown in number.

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