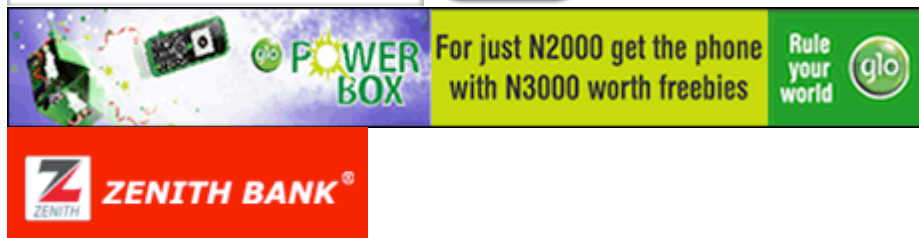


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You are here: [Home](#) / [Metro](#) / One killed as NURTW members clash again in Lagos

One killed as NURTW members clash again in Lagos

February 9, 2012 by Eniola Akinkuotu [10 Comments](#)



One person, identified simply as Ige, believed to be a member of the National Union of Road Transport Workers reportedly lost his life on Tuesday during a clash at Ona la on Lagos Island.

Metro learnt that the fight was a supremacy battle between two factions of the NURTW over the collection of money at a park in Oyebanji area.

A resident, who wished not to be named, said one of the warring parties was angry because it felt the police had taken sides with the other faction.

He said, "One of the NURTW bosses on Lagos Island was alleged to have been responsible for last week's violence in which some people died.

"However, the police promised us that he would be arrested before he fled last week. He came back on Tuesday and the police did not arrest him. In fact, he is still in control of Lagos Island.

"The people were aggrieved and felt the police had taken sides. So, they went to Ona la on Tuesday to fight the other faction."

The Police Public Relations Officer for the state command, Mr. Jaiyeoba Joseph, could not be reached as at press time as his phones were switched off.

Meanwhile, the immediate past treasurer for the state chapter of the NURTW, Mr. Musiliu Akinsanya a.k.a. MC Oluomo, has cautioned the warring members of the union in the state to bury their hatchets or face the full wrath of the law.

Akinsanya said there was need for members of the union to embrace peace and resolve their differences through dialogue.

Akinsanya, who spoke through his media aide, Mr. Samson Adigun, said life was sacred and everybody had a right to life as guaranteed by the Nigerian constitution.

He said it was high time the union members began to think in the right direction and stopped blood-letting and violent clashes, adding that there was no faction in Lagos NURTW.

“I also want to seize this opportunity to make it clear to everyone that I’m not in any way connected to the crisis. Oshodi is my base and the place is peaceful as always. I don’t have or belong to any faction of NURTW because we are one body,” he said.

Akinsanya, who is also running for the chairmanship seat in the forthcoming NURTW election in the state, added that he had been to the state police command headquarters to absolve himself of the wrong accusations.

“I understand that people have erroneously linked my name to the violent clashes in some parts of Lagos Island because

I'm contesting for the chairmanship seat of our union in the state. But the police are in a better position to do investigations and fish out the real masterminds. I know that time will tell and people will know the truth very soon," he explained.

According to Akinsanya, the police have been urged to arrest anyone falsely claiming to be working for him or fomenting trouble in his name.

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- *Tamuno* February 9, 2012 at 12:24 am

Punch, I wonder why you didn't caption this piece as "Bloodbath or Massacre in Lagos..." like you did in the Anambra case that few persons were injured but you tagged it "Bloodbath in Anambra". Atleast somebody died in this case, isn't it enough to call it "Blood Bonanza"? And where are those hausa-fulanis gloating over the Anambra incident because "Igbos are killing themselves", as they termed it? Punch, please be objective in your reporting & don't try to fan the embers of ethnic hatred or try to portray any tribe in bad light, it's not fair. We're all Nigerians. God bless Naija

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- *The truth* February 9, 2012 at 12:35 am

Fashola this is another task

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- *Odu Sheriff* February 9, 2012 at 12:36 am

It's unfair.

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- *moses ovie orogun* February 9, 2012 at 1:06 am

No matter what fine names you may call them, the agberos will always remain agberos. Call them NURTW or any other fine name for that matter, they are a lawless set of people who can resort to bloody fights at the slightest provocation. Each time there is a clash either over chairmanship of a park, executive position in their union or over monetary matters, at least a life must be lost. They have become too powerful for the police to handle because a chairman of a park takes home in one day what a DPO would take 2 months to collect from his business centre, the police station. So the police guys are given so much money to seal their mouths and look the other way. They would never arrive in time to prevent loss of lives, but only arrive when the havoc has been done to pick up corpses as if they are mortuary attendants. The agberos are also used as thugs during electioneering campaigns and the elections proper for snatching of ballot boxes, etc, so our politicians cannot speak up against them publicly. During the recent protest against increase in pump price of petrol, while other affiliate unions of the NLC and TUC were out there in the frontline rallying Nigerians against the government action, the Agberos Union were in Abuja hobnobbing with government officials, signing and receiving keys to vehicles hurriedly purchased by the government to as they said "cushion the effect the increase in pump price of petrol would have on transport fares". These guys, from the North to the South, East to the West, they are lords wherever they operate. Woe betides any one that crosses their paths. If such a person is not sent to the world beyond, he would ever regret the day he dared to do so. Have you observed that no agbero has complete set of teeth, they drink alcoholic beverages with careless abandon, smoke cigarettes or even cannabis sativa

(indian hemp) openly and their eyes are always blood shot during work hours. Hardly a kind word is spoken by them. When they open their mouths to speak, only curses are spewed out. And when they laugh or smile, which they seldom do during business hours or only when they've cornered some money to themselves, they reveal gaping mouths with most of their teeth gone, a trophy earned from various fights. So when next you go to a park, be careful how you relate with the agberos because they have no respect for anyone except their chairman. Oga Chairmo, I hail o!

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• *John* February 9, 2012 at 4:55 am

It may interest you to know that when a nation is at brink of collapse, the states follow suite one after the other. I remember watching a BBC panorama here in UK tagged "Welcome to Lagos" the reporter went to meet this MC Oluomo called Akinsanya in his Five star apartment tastefully built and i was so surprised he couldn't communicate at all and he had graduates as interpreters and tugs with knives and cutlass as security with some policemen around him now he is planning to contest for chairmanship of the road transport union; now tell me the kind of reform you can expect if not embezzlement of the loot from the motor park and the defenseless market women. Ok oooo Nigeria we hail thee

[Reply](#) [Link](#) [Quote](#)



- *ema* February 9, 2012 at 5:49 am

I continue to wonder why this socalled NURTW has made itself and continue to remain a thin God. As at today, they are found not only in parks but in almost every bus stop extorting money from commercial drivers at rate dictated. why is the police not able to touch them? but the big question is Why it difficult for the Fashola led Gov,t to control this menace?

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- *Julius Nseobot* February 9, 2012 at 6:05 am

It is clear tha Lagos state is begining to suffer the consequences of Tinubu's greatest undoing—highering thugs and placing them on payroll in other to use them for election rigging.

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- *Babalola William R.* February 9, 2012 at 6:15 am

Our police officers must do all in their power to put NURTW crisis under their footstool so that they may face the issue of the Islamic sects invasion in to Lagos.

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J.O February 9, 2012 at 10:11 am

The reason this MORON's (NURTW) will continue to act as tin-gods, is because they are been backed by the state government. Why must this bunch of illitrates continue to hold us ramson, imagine the way and manner they conduct themself at the park....,you might think that they insane. The last time they fought each other at OSHODI, i was supriised when one of them Misiliu (MC) to be precised, was boasting to some of his followers that he has called the governor, and he assured him that nobody can take over OSHODI from him..... so what are we talking about?. Till our state government start to treat this MORON's as criminals, they will keep-on reigning as lord's over us.....

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• Sunbare February 9, 2012 at 11:10 am

This morning, Adeniji Adele junction was a no go area. Why will bunch of good for nothing drop outs contiune to trouble the peace of the society. Lokk at how many lives were lost in Oyo state. Now Lagos has taken over and this was as a result of Tinubu greed for power, every bus stop you see illiterates controlling a very vital part of our economy. Stray bullets has been hitting innocent souls, BRF should please ban NURTW activities in Lagos and most especially in the parks.

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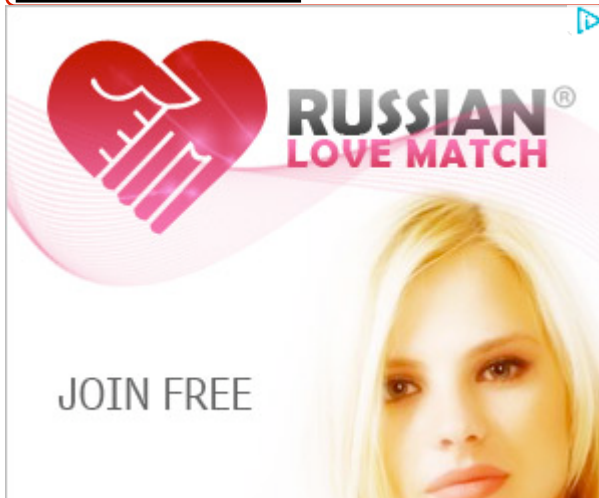
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