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Lagos PDP, APC trade blames over supporters' clash

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One of the damaged vehicles

No fewer than three people have been feared dead with several others injured on Friday after some members of the Peoples Democratic Party clashed with some members of the All Progressives Congress in the Alimosho area of Lagos State.

While the dead have yet to be identified, the injured persons were identified as Taiwo John, Mrs. Sola Sokunle, Uzamat Yussuf, Mrs. Bukola Akindele and one Mama Kampala, who were said to be on admission receiving treatment for gunshot injuries.

More than eight vehicles were also reportedly vandalised during the mayhem.

An eyewitness, who spoke with PUNCH Metro, said the gunfire lasted for hours.

"There was a hot exchange of gunfire for hours and people were running helter- skelter. Several people were injured and those who died cannot be less than three," he said.

The representative of the Alimosho Constituency 1 in the Lagos State House of Assembly, Bisi Yusuf, said it was the PDP's supporters that attacked the APC team during a rally at the Mosan-Okunola area.

He said the APC supporters campaigning for the party's governorship candidate, Akinwunmi Ambode, were returning from a meeting when they met a convoy of the PDP.

He claimed that the APC team decided to park and allow the PDP pass through the opposite lane.

He alleged that gun- wielding men alighted from the PDP convoy and opened fire on the APC members, beating them and looting shops around.

"They destroyed vehicles belonging to some people who were not politicians. A pastor who had his kids in his car was cut with matchete. My vehicle was riddled with bullets. If I was in the vehicle, I would have been a dead man by now," he added.

Yusuf regretted that the incident happened in the presence of some policemen, who did nothing to hold back the hoodlums.

The spokesperson of the PDP in Lagos, Mr. Gani Taofik, said the APC was the aggressor and was merely crying wolf to cover its crime.

He said, "The whole world already knows that the APC is notorious for doing something evil and crying wolf. We are not bothered that they want to blackmail the PDP again. If they like, let them continue to wreak havoc. They are desperate on retaining Lagos State.



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"All they want to do is attack our members, kill them and turn around to claim that those killed were their own members. I can tell you that the police and other security agencies have started investigation to get to the roots of the gruesome murder of the victims."

The Police Public Relations, Lagos State Command, Kenneth Nwosu, confirmed the incident.

He said, "The campaign train of the PDP was coming when they met the APC on the way. There was a problem between them which resulted in a fight.

"The record we have showed that only one person was injured while six vehicles were damaged. We have no record of death." *Copyright PUNCH.*

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"I am sure and let the world know that the people who did this thing were PDP members and those politicians in Abuja were the ones behind it; they were not APC members." Bauchi State Governor and member of the National Executive Committee of the PDP, Isa Yuguda, saying those who organised the youths that threw stones and pelted the President with sachet water, were members of the party from Abuja.