

One feared dead as rival cults clash

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Success Nwogu

A man, identified simply as Muiy, was feared dead on Monday following a clash between two rival cults in Ilorin, Kwara State.

It was also gathered that many people were injured during the mayhem which occurred at the Agaka area of Ilorin metropolis.

A source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the clash was between a cult from Ita-Kure/Oja-Iya and another group in Agaka.

He said the clash was mainly a supremacy battle between members of the rival cults.

According to him, Muiy who hailed from Agaka, was coming out of his house when strayed bullets hit him.

While the source said the victim died on the spot, some people from the area, however, said Muiy was rushed to a nearby hospital.

He said, "Suddenly, we saw some hoodlums armed with guns, machetes and other weapons using them on one another.

"There were also sporadic gunshots, and it was at that time that Muiy came out of his house. As soon as he stepped out, strayed bullets hit and killed him. He has been buried."

The Police Public Relations Officer, Kwara State Command, Mr. Ajayi Okasanmi, said he had yet to be briefed on the clash.

Meanwhile, the Speaker of the Kwara State House of Assembly, Dr. Ali Ahmad, and his predecessor, Mr. Razak Atunwa, have described the fire outbreak at the Oja-Tuntun in the Ilorin West Local Government Area as pathetic.

Ahmad in a statement by his Special Assistant on Media, Shuaib Abdulkadir, called on the government to urgently come to the aid of the shop owners in order to cushion the effect of the loss.

The Speaker advised the shop owners at the market to imbibe safety measures to prevent a recurrence.

Also, Atunwa, who currently represents Asa/Ilorin West Federal Constituency, in a statement by his media aide, Mr. Rotimi Olawale, said he would assist the victims to the best of his capability.

He urged all stakeholders to cooperate with various authorities in providing the necessary support for the victims.

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