

Protest rocks Rivers as policeman kills tricycle rider

Published December 11, 2020



Scene of the incident

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Pandemonium broke out in Rukpokwu community, in the Obio/Akpor Local Government Area of Rivers State on Thursday as youths protested against the killing of a tricycle rider by a policeman

The victim, identified as *School Boy*, was said to have been shot dead by the trigger-happy cop around 6am after a brief altercation between them.

A youth in the area told *PUNCH Metro* that the policeman demanded a N100 bribe and the tricycle rider refused to oblige him, saying it was too early in the day.

The resident, who refused to mention his name, noted that the policeman became infuriated by the response of the rider and shot him.

He said, “Around 6am, the police came in their van and one of them demanded N100 from *School Boy*, but he said he didn’t have and that he was just starting work for the day.

“The policeman became angry and shot him, killing him instantly. We would have trapped the policeman down, but he escaped.”

The incident was said to have triggered a protest, as angry youths took the corpse to the Rumuokoro Police Station despite gunshots being fired by the policemen.

A *keke* rider, who gave his name as Ugo, said three more persons were hit by stray bullets in their legs and were rushed to the hospital.

He said, “I was in front of my compound washing my *keke* when someone informed me that the police were chasing *keke* riders. Then I heard that the police shot and killed *School Boy*. Because of that, youths came out to protest and we took the corpse of the man to Rumuokoro Police Station. The police started shooting; they shot three boys in their legs. The injured victims have been taken to hospital for treatment.”

A spokesman for the state police command, Nnamdi Omoni, confirmed the incident, adding that the cop had been disarmed and detained.

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