

Protest as Delta task force allegedly kills two motorcyclists

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The Delta State Government task force has allegedly killed two motorcyclists, popularly called Okada riders, at the Koka junction area by Ibusa road, Asaba, the Delta State capital.

Okada riders, on Monday, took to the streets to protest the killing of their colleagues, which took place on Sunday, blocking major roads in the Oshimili South and the Oshimili North Local Government Areas of the state.

An eyewitness, who pleaded anonymity, told our correspondent via text that the deceased motorcyclists were killed in a clash between the Okada riders and officers of the task force on Sunday in a raid of a makeshift bar where they usually hung out.

According to him, the task force officers raided the place because motorcycles were banned in the area.

He said, “I was informed that two people were killed by the police last night at a makeshift bar where Aboki people always come to hang out every weekend. I heard the gunshot last night, so, they came protesting this morning. I suspect that they tried to fight the officers who went to bust the place because bikes are not allowed in that area.

“Yes, I was at the front of my estate gate when I noticed a sea of Aboki guys protesting the killing of their person by the Nigeria police. They were violent, but in front of my estate, which is Agu mega city estate by GRA police station area, the police did not open fire on any protester.”

Another eyewitness told *PUNCH Metro* that the task force relocated the motorcyclists from the area, and the bikers were resisting the relocation, which led to the killing of a motorcyclist.

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He said, “Government task force relocated the Okada riders; so, as a result of that, they were resisting that they could not get passengers where they moved them to.

“In the process, one Okada man was killed. Unfortunately, it was a Hausa Okada man who died.

“And his people gathered and started destroying things. The killing happened in the Koka junction, but they moved to post-primary board and midwifery to start destroying things.”

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer in the state, DSP Bright Edafe, confirmed the killing.

He said, “The incident happened yesterday night. It was between the task force and the Okada riders.

“Two were killed, and this morning the people started protesting but we are on top of the situation. We are investigating the killing.”