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Transporter killed, farm manager kidnapped in Ogun

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Johnson Idowu, Uthman Salami, and Bankole Taiwo Some suspected gunmen reportedly killed one person identified as Seun Adebowale in the Ososa area of the Odogbolu Local Government Area of Ogun State on Tuesday.

PUNCH Metro gathered from a source who pleaded anonymity on Wednesday that pandemonium broke out in the community following sporadic shooting, suspected to be a transport union clash, which led to the death of Adebowale.

It was further gathered that the intervention of the police and executive of the Odogbolu Local government brought the tension under control.

The source said, "We just began to hear gunshots in our area this morning, and what I gathered was that it was a clash between the union guys.

"After some time, the police came, and we saw that one person was dead. The local government chairman was here, and the police were the ones that took the body away."

Reacting, the state's Police Public Relations Officer, Omolola Odutola, who confirmed the incident to our reporter, noted that efforts are ongoing to apprehend the suspects.

Odutola said, "The incident happened. The body of the deceased has been taken to a morgue for preservation and autopsy on the probable cause of his death. The CP, Abiodun Alamutu, has directed that the fleeing suspects be arrested."

Similarly, gunmen suspected to be kidnappers were said to have kidnapped one Tunde Osifowokan on his brother's farm in the Idowa community of Odogbolu Local Government Area of the state on the same day.

This is just as the Hausa community in the town was also said to have reported on Tuesday that one Mallam Isiaka Aileru who went to his farm on Monday has not been seen and that he might have been abducted on his farm by these daredevil gunmen.

The gunmen were said to have arrived at the farm in a commando style, shooting sporadically and causing the residents to scamper for safety.

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They were said to have demanded from the owner of the business who had travelled but was expected to return that same day.

But when none of the workers would talk out of fear, Osifowokan was said to have stood up to say the owner of the farm was not around.

The hoodlums had reportedly told him to identify himself, and he said that he was the younger brother of the owner of the farm, so the abductors decided to escape with him while shooting.

Speaking with our correspondent on Wednesday, the Sobaloju of Idowa, Chief Yusuf Olusanya confirmed the incident.

Olusanya added, "While trying to escape, they shot at one driver in the neck, and they riddled his vehicle which he uses in carrying blocks with bullets.

"A new twist was added to the incident when the Hausa Community in the town on Tuesday also said that they are looking for one of them, one Mallam Isiaka Aileru. He was said to have gone to his farm on Monday, but he had since not returned. He had even been traced to his farm, and they found the cloth he wore to the farm, but he was nowhere to be found.

"The thinking is that this same gang might have been responsible for this missing Mallam Isiaka Aileru. The police at Idowa, Odogbolu, and even the Area Commander from Ijebu-Ode have all been here, but as we speak, we have not heard anything touching on the demand for ransom by these abductors."

The Commissioner of Police, Abiodun Alamutu, confirmed the abduction of the poultry farm manager, saying that the police are deploying all their arsenal and intelligence to ensure that the victim regains freedom.

"There was a kidnap, but only one person is involved and not two; if they are looking for another person, it may not be a kidnap. If the person has not returned home, they should give us another 24 hours before they will go and make an official complaint," Alamutu said.

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