



One killed in Ogun cult clash, mob beats man to death

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| Johnson Idowu and Uthman Salami

One person identified as Segun was reportedly killed following a violent cult clash that erupted in the Bode Olude area of Abeokuta South Local Government Area of Ogun State late Tuesday.

PUNCH Metro gathered from a police source, who pleaded anonymity due to lack of authority to speak on Wednesday, that the suspects, numbering about six, stormed the area on three motorcycles, armed with guns and cutlasses.

The suspected cultists were reported to have chased Segun before shooting him dead and cutting off his wrist.

Following the attack, some members of the public were said to have pursued the suspects and apprehended one, who was later handed over to the police.

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The source said, "There were about six boys present, who arrived at the junction on three motorcycles and chased the deceased with a gun, causing panic among the public.

"They shot at the victim and cut off his wrist, but one of the culprits was caught by brave members of the public."

Confirming the incident in a telephone conversation with our correspondent, the state's Police Public Relations Officer, Omolola Odutola, said one person had been arrested in connection with the incident.

She said, "On Tuesday, May 14, at about 9.30 pm, a distress call was received indicating that a group of cult boys were causing chaos at the Bode Olude Junction. Upon receiving this information, the patrol team quickly arrived at the scene.

"They found a man named Segun, also known as Joyibo, lying in a pool of blood with his right wrist slashed by the cult boys. Fortunately, one of the culprits was caught by brave members of the public and identified as Ishola Joseph, 'M', of 10 Owu Baptist Church Totoro Abeokuta."

She added that an investigation had begun into the matter while the body of the deceased had been deposited at the Ijaiye State Hospital morgue.

"The area was combed with the assistance of the ACPOL Patrol Team and Anti-Cultism Team, and the deceased's photo was taken with the body deposited at Ijaiye State Hospital, Abeokuta.

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"The case is currently under investigation by the DCB, and any further update will be communicated."

In another development, some irate youths in the Sagamu area of Ogun State have clubbed a yet-to-be-identified man to death for allegedly snatching a female traveller's bag along the expressway on Thursday.

Our correspondent exclusively gathered on Wednesday that the incident occurred on Thursday, May 8, 2024, along the Sagamu Interchange axis of the state.

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A police source privy to the incident who spoke with our correspondent on the condition of anonymity, because he was not permitted to speak to the media, said the deceased was believed to have snatched the bag from a lady who stood by the walkway of the expressway.

While attempting to escape after snatching the bag, our correspondent learnt that some youths in the area who witnessed the alleged crime ran after the suspect.

When it dawned on him that he would soon be nabbed by the relentless youths, the deceased was said to have scaled over a fence into a compound of a building that was under construction.

“When he jumped the fence, he didn’t realise that there was a security guard at the site. But when the security guard attempted to challenge and apprehend him, he hit him on the back of his head, which made the security guard unconscious.

When the angry youths who also jumped the same fence saw that the man had knocked the security guard down, they pounced on him and beat him to a coma,” the officer said.

Meanwhile, the spokesperson for the command, Odutola, who confirmed the incident, said the security guard and the suspect were rushed to the hospital, where the latter was confirmed dead by a doctor on duty.

“The suspect was confirmed dead when they got to the hospital. His corpse has been deposited at the Olabisi Onabanjo Hospital morgue for possible identification. In the meantime, the security guard is responding to treatment. We have begun a preliminary investigation to unravel the circumstances of the incident,” Odutola concluded.

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