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# **Protests As Police Kill Okada Rider**

February 04, 2010 16:43, 29 views

By Dedeiabo Avodele

Hundreds of commercial motorcyclists, a.k.a. Okada, yesterday took to the streets in Ajegunle, Mile 12, Lagos to protest the alleged killing of their colleague by the police.

The deceased was allegedly hit by a stray bullet fired by policemen from Area 'H' Division, Ogudu who were on the trail of a fleeing suspect.

The policemen were alleged to have fired indiscriminately into the air in an attempt to stop the fleeing criminal from escaping but one of the bullets hit the Okada rider.

There were conflicting reports on how the accidental discharge led to the death of the Okada rider but P.M.NEWS gathered that the deceased, identified as Ramoni Balogun, 31, father of one, was sitting on an Okada with the wanted man when he was hit by a stray bullet.

Two unidentified persons were also shot by the police during the protest by the Okada riders. They were rushed to the hospital but their condition could not be ascertained as at the time of filing this report.

A police patrol van was set ablaze by the protesting Okada riders at a filling station in Ajegunle during the protest.

Police Area Commander for Area 'H', Ogudu, Prince Chi U. Anaekwe, confirmed to P.M.NEWS that his men were chasing a known fleeing criminal when the incident occurred.

Elder sister to the deceased, Mrs. Shaanu explained that: "My brother was not a criminal. He was going to Igbogbo to see his only child, Kwam Balogun. Kwam's mother is also late. Unfortunately, he met his death in this gruesome manner.'

Two reporters from NEXT and P.M.NEWS newspapers were manhandled by some policemen who tried to stop them from taking photographs of the burnt police vehicle.

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