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One dead as miscreants clash in Lagos

BY SAM OTTLON OCTOBER 15, 2014 -

NATIONAL

A 28-year-old man, identified as Tunde was on Monday shot dead in a bloody clash between rival street boys in Fadeyi, Somolu Local Government Area of Lagos State.

The victim met his doom in the hands of armed rival gang, who shot him at close range at about 8.30p.m. and smashed his head in celebration of their triumph.

An eyewitness, who lives in the troubled area, but pleaded anonymity, told Daily Sun that street boys in the area, popularly called 'Area Boys' had cast a shadow of fear on people living in the area. He said the street boys drew battle lines, brandishing various weapons of war, following their disagreement over the offloading of containers imported into the local market in the area by POP dealers. According to him, the battle has been raging for the past three years, with over six people killed by the rival gangs. I can authoritatively say that more than six persons have been consumed by this senseless war. The most irritating part of the problem is that the policemen in the area are not helping matters."

The residents of Fadeyi area are presently living in fear," he said. Our reporter gathered that the hoodlums also molested passers-by, forcing people into their homes to escape danger. Business outfits in the area hurriedly closed for business to avert possible looting of their wares.

Our source said the rival groups had been engaged in an endless war of attrition over the control of POP containers, mostly materials used in constructing Chinese ceilings. According to him, the age-long grievance triggered a major crisis on Sunday, which spilled out of control, leading to the death of the latest victim.

"Any time one of the rival groups comes to offload the POP containers, they suffer discrimination. The POP dealers are not helping matters too. People are living in fear. We are not safe at night," he said.

It was gathered that Tunde's death had deepened the hatred in the area, with some residents moving out of the troubled location for fear of reprisal attack.

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