

One shot, many injured as NURTW, Keke Marwa operators clash again in Lagos

By **Christopher Oji**

HOSTILITY between members of the National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) and commercial tricycle (Keke Marwa) operators continued yesterday at the Kola area of Alagbado, in Lagos, with one person killed and many others injured.

Three person have been arrested in connection with the fracas.

The two unions engaged themselves in a fight at the weekend over tricycle operators' threat to break away from NURTW in the area. Two persons were killed and five others injured.

Yesterday morning, violent clashes occurred, as the factions engaged squared up, leading to casualties. Three persons were allegedly shot dead, while several others were injured.

An eyewitness, Wasiu Adigun, said: "I am a member of Keke Marwa union. We have been suffering in the hands of the NURTW members, who have been imposing assorted levies on us. We decided that they can't be controlling us and still controlling their vehicles. We decided to pull out from their union and be independent, as we are not benefiting anything from them. Since we made that threat, the NURTW members started attacking our members and seizing our tricycles. We cannot fold our arms."

A member of NURTW, =Samson said: "It was blatant lie to say that we are fighting Keke Marwa operators because they want to pull out from us. They started the fight just to create confusion, to enable them pull out. If they want to pull out, they should come to a round table. They started a reprisal attack. They claimed that we killed some of their members. They waylaid us and started shooting at us. Some of our members were shot."

The Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Dolapo Badmos, said one person was killed