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Emeute et lynchage à Lagos – juillet 2010



**Cop lynched for killing commercial bus driver,
injuring many**

sunnewsonline.com

By CHRISTOPHER OJI and MATTHEW DIKE

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Hell was let loose yesterday at the Akowonjo area of Lagos when a police constable allegedly shot dead a commercial bus driver and wounded a vulcanizer. The policeman was instantly lynched by a mob who overpowered him. **Daily Sun** gathered that a commercial bus fully loaded with passengers was flagged down by a police patrol team,

which was reportedly busy extorting money from bus drivers.

The bus driver allegedly indicated that he had already paid his toll and refused to stop. The constable was said to have fired at the vehicle, killing the driver instantly while other passengers including a vulcanizer suffered gunshot wounds. Sympathisers who witnessed the incident could not hold back their anger as they went after the police team.

Members of the police patrol team were said to have taken to their heels but the mob, which was desperate to avenge the death of the driver, simply identified as Kazeem, went after the team and succeeded in apprehending the constable.

The mob descended on the policeman and beat him to a state of coma. However, his colleagues called for reinforcement and about 10 patrol vehicles stormed the scene and took away the constable.

Daily Sun reliably gathered that he gave up the ghost on the way to the hospital. However, the mob, which took over the Akowonjo area, barricaded the road, chanting songs condemning the police.

Street urchins popularly called Area Boys hijacked the protest and wreaked havoc on vehicle owners suspected to be either military or police personnel. The protesters were chanting, “Enough is enough,” “Withdraw police from our roads.”

A commercial bus driver who identified himself simply as Wasiu alleged that police extortion on Lagos roads was becoming too much. “They now collect N50 instead of N20. It is not one checkpoint; we have up to 15 checkpoints from Iyana-Iba to Akowonjo. So, you see our predicament,” he said.

A commercial motorcycle operator, okada rider, Samuel Okezie wanted the state police Commissioner, Mr. Marvel Akpoyibo and the state Governor, Babatunde Fashola to caution the police against the unnecessary intimidation and extortion of motorists.

He said: “The police extortion is responsible for the increase in transportation fare in Lagos.”

As at press time, 25 police vehicles were at the scene of the incident. Commercial activities around the area were paralysed and traders closed their shops for fear of either being attacked by hoodlums or arrested by the police.

When contacted, the state police spokesman, Mr. Frank Mba confirmed that a policeman was alleged to have misused his fire arms by killing a commercial bus driver. He said some hoodlums who were at the scene, attacked the police team, destroying the police van while the police officer was badly wounded. He revealed that 24 suspects had so far been arrested in connection with the attack on the police.

Adding that the suspects have been moved to the State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID), Panti, Yaba.

He said, the Commissioner of Police, Mr. Marvel Akpoyibo has ordered full scale investigation into the matter. He said investigation would ascertain if the policeman misused his firearms and “if so he would be charged for murder and other related offence while those arrested for attacking the police would equally be charged to court as there is no room for jungle justice in the state.

Police Corporal lynched over commercial driver shooting

vanguardngr.com

Jul 28, 2010

By Evelyn Usman

LAGOS—An angry mob, yesterday, lynched a Police Corporal at Akonwonjo area of Lagos for allegedly killing a commercial bus driver.

A vulcanizer, whose identity could not be immediately ascertained, was also allegedly felled by the Corporal's bullet. Time was 2.30 p.m.

Eyewitnesses said the commercial bus driver, identified simply as Kazeem, was stopped by a team of Policemen on stop-and-search, at Vulcaniser Bus-Stop and demanded for an unspecified amount of money.

Kazeem, as gathered, argued that he had initially given the Policemen money and even reminded them of the number they gave to his conductor.

He was said to have zoomed off ignoring the Policemen, an action that infuriated one of them who allegedly fired into the moving vehicle. The bullet was said to have pierced the driver's throat, who lost control of the bus and rammed into a vehicle in front.

The action sparked off a violent reaction as an angry mob reportedly chased the killer cop.

Stray bullet kills vulcanizer

Eyewitnesses said the unidentified Corporal fired some shots in a bid to scare away the surging mob. In the process, the vulcanizer was hit by a stray bullet.

But the undaunted mob reportedly caught up with the Corporal, disarmed him and beat him into a state of coma. The mob, thereafter, took to the road chanting anti-Police songs.

It took the combined efforts of both Mobile and conventional Policemen to quell the situation. About 25 Police vans and 100 Policemen were sighted patrolling the entire vicinity.

The incident disrupted both vehicular and human movements. Traders were not left out as shop owners hurriedly locked up for fear of being arrested by the Policemen. Eyewitnesses said there was random arrests by Policemen.

PPRO's comments

Contacted, the Lagos State Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. Frank Mba, said about 20 persons had been arrested. He said the lynched cop was responding to treatment in an undisclosed hospital.

He said if at the end of investigations the Policeman was found to have shot indiscriminately, the Command would not hesitate to deal decisively with the erring Policeman.

He added also that if it is discovered that people took laws into their hands, the Command would also not take it lightly with such individual, pointing out that two wrongs could never make a right.

Riot: 1 Killed, 24 Arrested

thisdayonline.com

07.28.2010

By Godwin Haruna

A Lagos-based commercial driver was yesterday reportedly gunned down by a police officer attached to one of the patrol vehicles in Egbeda area of Lagos triggering instant pandemonium and riots in the area.

In the ensuing violence and commotion, men of the Lagos State Police Command deployed to the scene to restore law and order arrested 24 persons, who were alleged to have taken the law into their hands for trying to resort to jungle justice by attacking the patrol team.

The arrested persons were mainly drivers and conductors, colleagues of the deceased thereby bringing traffic in and out of the area to a halt for several hours even after the reinforcement of more policemen to the scene.

Spokesman of the Lagos State Police Command, Mr. Frank Mba (SP) confirmed to **THISDAY** in a telephone interview that the police officers involved in the incident would be dealt in accordance with the law, “which includes dismissal and prosecution, if found wanting.”

“Thugs who took laws into their hands will be investigated and might be prosecuted. We believe jungle justice has no place in our criminal justice system and that two wrongs can’t make a right,” he said.

Mba added that the arrested persons seriously injured a policeman and partially damaged the police vehicle, and that the case was under investigation. He said the 24 persons arrested have been transferred to State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID), Panti for profiling and investigation.

According to him, normalcy has since been restored to the area, but the unfortunate incident left kilometres of gridlock on all routes leading to the area last night.

Egbeda residents protest police assault

234next.com

July 27, 2010

The Lagos Police Command has deployed over 200 officers to quell a riot at the Egbeda area of Lagos, where residents are protesting the alleged murder of bus driver this morning by a police officer. The riot reportedly broke out at about 3:15pm at the Vulcanizer Bus-Stop, Egbeda, following the residents’ mobilization to protest the unjust killing of the said driver whose name is yet to be known as at press time.

One of the police officers at the check-point had allegedly shot at the bus driver over an argument involving his demand of a N50 bribe. Residents of the area reportedly went on rampage, using dangerous weapons to attack any policeman in sight.

Police shoots commercial bus driver

allvoices.com

Jul 27, 2010

There was commotion in Akowonjo area of Egbeda in Lagos State , Nigeria on Tuesday afternoon as an unidentified police officer reportedly shot a commercial bus driver to death ..

The Tuesday killing occurred less than fifteen days after a commercial bus driver was shot to death by another unidentified policeman for refusing to part with 20 naira .

Irate hoodlums , who were present during the time of the extra – judicial killing reportedly took law into their hand as they pounced on the killer policeman and beat him to a state of coma .

The situation became more tensed some minutes after the jungle justice as a reinforced team of policemen arrested several people in connection with the incident that has created tension among residents Vulcanizer Bus Stop area of Akowonjo .

The killer policemen had around 3o'clock on Tuesday reportedly opened fire on the driver of the bus , who had reportedly ignored the policeman's request to halt his vehicle and part with something..

Hoodlums who saw the driver gasping for breath before finally giving up , went on rampage and battered the erring policeman as other members of his team escaped into thin air.

Various dangerous weapons including machetes knives and broken bottles were reportedly used by the hoodlums on the killer policeman , who is said to bein a very serious situation.

Scores of residents of the area , mainly youths have since been arrested in the area by combined team of policemen from Area F police formations and other police stations around Akowonjo .

Over twenty five patrol vans with over one hundred anti riot policemen were immediately drafted to the area to forestall a further breakdown of law and order in the area.

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~ par Alain Bertho le 28 juillet 2010.

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