Dead bodies found near police checkpoint

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Two lifeless bodies were yesterday found in a forest at a police checkpoint between Enugu and Ebonyi states by stranded passengers, who were held up because of a clash between policemen and a lorry driver.

A driver of a lorry fully loaded with yams was stopped at the checkpoint by policemen on duty and the driver allegedly gave them N500, which was allegedly rejected by the policemen.

It was gathered that the policemen had requested for N1,000 which the driver said he could not pay.

Trouble was said to have started when the driver resisted the policemen from deflating his tires and the driver was beaten to pulp, which warranted other drivers to block the road for over two hours.

It was in the process that some stranded passengers who went to the bush to defecate saw lifeless bodies.

This infuriated road users, who alleged that it was the police that killed and dumped the corpses in the bush.

A source, who did not want his name in print, said: "What I saw was that a driver of lorry fully loaded with yams was stopped by the policemen at checkpoint and he gave them five hundred naira N500 and the policemen rejected the money.

"The policemen approached the driver and he told them that since he had given them N500 which the policemen rejected, that none of them could deflate his tire.

"Trouble started when the policemen attempted to deflate his tire. When he tried to stop them, they started beating him. The driver was almost killed. It was at this point that other drivers of articulated vehicles blocked the road causing hold up for hours along the Abakaliki-Enugu Expressway.

"As the road was blocked, stranded passengers and other drivers who were pressed entered the bush to defecate and they saw two lifeless bodies. I left Enugu so early this morning as at 6am, but I was there till 8am.

"The dead bodies were found around the police checkpoints. The people around were suspecting it was the police that killed them. They were surprised why the dead bodies should be found around the checkpoint."