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Bloody Sallah: Cult leader, four others killed during reprisal

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Correspondents



Taiwo Jimoh

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eader of Aiye Confraternity, Alhaji Waheed Obasanjo, accused of terrorising Oworonshoki, Ifako, Gbagada, Bariga and Somolu areas of Lagos metropolis, was killed on Sallah day.

Obasanjo and four others were killed on Sunday in different parts of the community.

Obasanjo was returning from Lagos Island when his car developed a fault at Olojojo bus stop, at Olopo Meji Under Bridge. He came down to check his car when members of a rival cult group shot and killed him.

A source at Oworonshoki told our correspondent yesterday on the phone that before help could come his way, the alleged cult leader had bled to death.

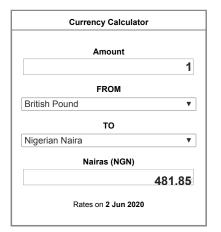
The source said immediately after the news of his death filtered into town, his boys went after their rival Eiye group members.

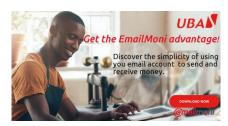
According to the source, while fighting, two members of Aiye, identified as Dangote and Kabiru alias Keybee, were killed in different locations in the community while two also died from the Eiye side. Several others sustained injuries.

"Since Sunday, there has been serious tension in Oworonshoki. Two of Obasanjo's boys were killed. One was killed at Alaba Street off Ekore/Pako bus stop while the second was killed at Ireku Street off Meyaki Road. We couldn't celebrate Sallah with our Muslim brothers and sisters in Lagos on Sunday. There were sounds of gunshot everywhere.

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"I was told Obasanjo was coming from Lagos Island when his car developed a fault at Olojojo bus stop. He was trying to check what went wrong and also to fix it when the rival group came on two bikes and shot him at close range. They shot him on the chest and head," the source said.

The source added that with Obasanjo's death, the residents of Oworonshoki, Ifako, Gbagada, Ogudu, Somolu and Bariga would heave a sigh of relief.

"Obasanjo and the rival gang members have caused so much problems in those communities I mentioned. Killing of innocent people and looting of shops have become part of their activities.

"We want regular police patrol in our community to put the cultists under control. We cannot sleep with our eyes closed. Even the Baale and the Oba cannot do much, because they also don't want to die. The Eiye cult group that killed Obasanjo avenged the death of their leader called Swagger. Swagger was killed last year at bear parlour by Obasanjo's boys," the source said.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Bala Elkana, promised to get back to our correspondent to confirm the killings.

He was yet to do that at press time.

