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Irate Youths Kill Policeman in Niger

Laleye Dipo in Minna

An unidentified policeman was yesterday allegedly killed in Minna, the Niger State capital, while trying to quell an uprising by some youths in the Makera area of the state.

The slain policeman was among those deployed to restore law and order to the Makera area of the city centre after three days of gang clashes.

While one eyewitness claimed the policeman was stabbed to death by one of the youths, another report said that the security man met his untimely death when a bullet from the gun of his colleague reportedly hit him causing instant death.

The eyewitness said the other policeman tried to shoot into the air to scare the rioting youths but the bullet mistakenly hit the dead policeman.

The policeman was rushed to the Minna General Hospital where he was confirmed dead.

All efforts to get police confirmation of the incident was abortive as the State Police Command Public Relations Officer, DSP Wasiu Abiodun, did not respond to calls made to his cell phone.

However, the Commissioner for Local Government and Internal Security, Mr. Emmanuel Umar when contacted said: "Yes it happened, I have contacted the CP who promised to give me the details later."

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