



Nigeria: Fracas in Ikorodu As Police Allegedly Kill Okada Rider

BY BOSE ADELAJA AND MONSUR OLOWONPEJO, 21 AUGUST 2013

Lagos — Fracas broke out, yesterday, in Ikorodu following the death of a motorcyclist after he was allegedly shot by a Policeman attached to Ikorodu Division, Lagos State.

The tragedy struck around 4p.m at Ojubode area leading to a serious gridlock which lasted for hours as the deceased's colleagues trooped out to protest the killing.

This resulted into pandemonium as commuters and residents scampered for safety. Also, shops and offices were shut for hours by owners for fear of the unknown.

Although information was sketchy as at press time, an eye witnesses said the motorcyclist identified simply as Haruna, met his untimely death when the Policemen stormed the area to impound his motorcycle but the deceased refused arrest on the ground that the Policemen visited last weekend asking him to part with an undisclosed amount of money.

To his surprise, the same Policemen came back yesterday to impound the motorcycle and out of annoyance, Haruna refused to release the motorcycle and started struggling with one of the Policemen.

According to reports, one of the Policemen fired a shot at him, which led to his death.

Vanguard gathered that the corpse was removed by the Policemen to an unknown destination while scores of motorcyclists were said to have gathered at the palace of the Oba of Ikorodu to protest the killing.

In a telephone chat with Vanguard, Chairman, Motorcyclists Association of Lagos State, MOALS, Ikorodu zone popularly called 'Jendor"described the incident as barbaric and called on government to bring the perpetrators to book.

He said: "As you can see, we are very busy now, you can hear a lot of noise from our members. This is too much for us to bear"

Haruna's death occurred six months after a policeman attached to Ikorodu Division Corporal Goroye Folagbade, was dismissed for stealing an impounded motorcycle from Saheed Owolabi of the same Ojubode park.

Effort to get the Lagos State Police Public Relations Officer, Ngozi Braide's comment proved abortive as she could not be reached on phone.

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