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4 die, 4 others wounded in cult war over lover

BY DEMOLA AKINYEMI

ILORIN — THERE was a bloodbath in Ilorin, the Kwara State capital, yesterday morning, following a clash between two rival cult groups, leaving four persons dead and four others severely wounded in a gun battle.

An eye witness told *Vanguard* that the corpse of one of the victims of the clash, a boy identified as Suleiman Babatunde, was brought to the Specialist Hospital, Sobi, Ilorin at about 9.45 am. yesterday.

As police were waiting for the corpse to be admitted into the hospital's mortuary, information reached them that three other persons have been killed at the same spot in Baboko.

Though the immediate cause of the clash could not be ascertained but a police officer confided in *Vanguard* that the cultists were fighting over a girl.

A relation of the late Babatunde, however, said the hoodlums who killed his brother came from Adabata area of the town.

He said they opened fire indiscriminately in the building where the deceased was sleeping and he died on the spot after having been hit by the bullets.

He said another person who was also inside the building sustained bruises on his cheek while two others sustained various bodily injuries.

Contacted, spokesman of the state Police command, Ajayi Okusina said: "When this thing happened yesterday, about seven trucks of combat policemen were sent there and they are still there as I speak."