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6 killed as cult groups clash in Lagos community

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By ESTHER ONYEBULA

LAGOS — AT least six people were reportedly killed during a feud between two cult groups in Magbon, a community in the outskirts of Lagos, along Badagry expressway, weekend.

Trouble, as gathered, started after a member of Aiye confraternity, simply identified as Shola, in charge of collecting revenues from commercial bike riders (Okada) allegedly killed a member of the Black Axe confraternity at Toll gate-Iyana Ibiye bus stop and collected the deceased's motorcycle.

Aggrieved members of the Black Axe confraternity, who got wind of the killing, traced the deceased's bike to a man of northern extraction who bought the bike from Shola.

Members of the Black Axe confraternity, after the discovery, allegedly confronted the unnamed man who allegedly confessed to buying the bike from Shola.

Confused about the whole scenario, the buyer ran to Shola to notify him of his encounter with some people over the bike.

According to a commercial cyclist at Magbon Okada park, simply called Abbey, feeling threatened that the whole incident would be traced to him through his customer, Shola allegedly arranged that members of this cult group, the Aiye confraternity should tie up loose ends by eliminating the buyer of the controversial motorbike and another unidentified commercial cyclist, a member of rival cult group, Black Axe confraternity, who discovered the deceased bike at Magbon.

Vanguard also gathered that the plan was executed around Airfield Road Close while the other bike rider was killed inside a public football viewing centre.

Rattled by the killings, members of the Black Axe confraternity lead by one Kenneth, planned a reprisal attack which was carried out at the baby naming ceremony of a member of the rival group.

According to reports, the attack was resisted as one of the Aiye members, identified as Joel Ajose, succeeded in apprehending one of rivalry cult member simply identified as Kenneth and handed him over to the Police at Morogbo.

Vanguard gathered that Kenneth was said to have been released by the police for insufficient evidence to prosecute him.

After his release, Kenneth was said to have mobilised his cult members who later killed Segun Osha, Joel Ajose and Tunde Jacob.

Although investigation is still on-going, the Police have arrested Shola while Kenneth is said to be on the run.

Attempts to get the police angle failed as calls to the spokesperson, Ngozi Braide's phone remained unanswered at press time.

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