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2 dead as okadamen, touts clash again in Lagos

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By Evelyn Usman

LAGOS—Trouble is currently brewing in Era area of Badagry, Lagos, following a battle between motor park touts and commercial motorcyclists from Kogi State, which left two motorcyclists dead.

Several others were reportedly injured, with houses burnt. As at 8p.m., yesterday, *Vanguard* gathered that residents were fleeing their abodes, apparently out of fear.

Report said trouble began during an argument between the motor park touts and one of the motorcyclists over N50 levy, Tuesday.

A resident, who contacted *Vanguard* at about 7.50p.m. on phone yesterday, said: “The *agberos* have been collecting N50 from the motorcyclists, majority of who are from Kogi State.

“However, on Tuesday, explanations by one of the motorcyclists that he had paid fell on deaf ears. He was beaten to a state of coma and news filtered in later that he died.

“His colleagues, who went to rescue him, were also beaten. Two of them were rushed to the hospital. Unfortunately, we learned that one of them died this afternoon (yesterday).

“When news of his death filtered in, their aggrieved colleagues went to the mother of one of the *agberos*, who was alleged to have been responsible for the death of the first motorcyclist. They burnt the house and proceeded to another building owned by a relative of another *agbero* and also set it ablaze.

“The *agberos*, on the other hand, have been brandishing dangerous weapons, looking for the Kogi motorcyclists. Some of us are leaving our homes because we do not know when they will strike.

“After this call, I hope to leave with my family because our building is owned by one of the *agberos*.”

The resident hinted that policemen were patrolling the area.

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