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One dies as transport union factions clash in Lagos

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By Monsuru Olowoopejo

A yet-to-be-identified person was, yesterday, shot and feared killed after two factions of the National Union of Road Transport Workers, NURTW, clashed at Oshodi over chairmanship tussle.

Vanguard gathered that the person, a member of the transport union, was shot at the entrance of Brown Street, where the fight started with his remains still lying at the scene at press time. The fracas spread to other axes of Oshodi.

A resident, Mrs. Olatunbosun, said: "I do not know when the clash started. But when I arrived here this morning (yesterday), I saw the corpse of a man at the entrance of Brown Street.

"I was told this was where the fight started. I do not know who the person is."

When Vanguard visited the scene, it was learned that Lagos State Commissioner of Police, Fatai Owoseni, was at the scene earlier, directing that an Armoured Personnel Carrier, APC, and a patrol vehicle be stationed at the scene to forestall an escalation of the crisis.

The clash halted business activities in Oshodi for hours, as commercial activities which often commenced very early, started at about 11a.m.

An eyewitness said that the clash was between Musiliu Akinsanya, popularly called MC Oluomo and another faction that was installed few months ago to manage the parks.

Confirming the fracas, Police Public Relations Officer, Dolapo Badmus, said that the fracas was between two factions of a transport union vying to control the motor parks.

She said the swift intervention of policemen have helped to douse the tension in the axis.

Badmus, however, said that she was not aware of the death recorded during the fracas, saying "we have commenced investigation to apprehend those involved in the clash."