

### 3 die in Lagos cult war, shops looted, vehicles vandalised

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By Nicola Esekhaile

NO fewer than three persons were feared dead, weekend, while scores were injured after suspected cultists stormed Adekunle Street, Oshodi, Lagos, to avenge the attack on one of them.

Over 15 vehicles had their windscreen shattered, while shops were looted in the ensuing melee.

Vanguard gathered that trouble started at a casino between a resident of Adekunle Street, whose identity was given simply as Emmanuel, and a suspected cultist. It degenerated into a fight during which Emmanuel reportedly injured the suspected cultist. He was said to have fled the scene.

In retaliation, he stormed Emmanuel's home at 14, Adekunle Street at 4.35a.m. with his fellow cultists and unleashed mayhem on anyone in sight.

#### Victim

A man, Kehinde Odugbaye, whose vehicle was vandalised, said: "We were jolted from sleep by the noise. When I peeped through the window, we saw the cultists smashing vehicles.

"Nobody could go out because we did not know what was happening; until 6am, when we were told that they came for Emmanuel. But how does that affect us? Emmanuel does not even have a car."

Residents also told Vanguard that such incident was happening for the second time between Emmanuel, whose mother is a retired security agent, and thugs in the area.

#### Injured

One of the injured men, who gave his name as Damola, was still receiving treatment at Long Life Hospital at Owoseni Street, yesterday.

Speaking with Vanguard from his hospital bed, he said: "I was just passing by when I saw the cultists. Immediately I sighted them, I took to my heels but they chased and caught up with me, saying I was an informant.

“Before I could explain, they started beating me until I passed out, only to wake up in the hospital. I would have been killed over something I know nothing about.”  
Policemen from Shogunle Division, who were contacted, reportedly arrived the area and succeeded in bringing the situation under control.

Vanguard gathered that no arrest was made as the cultists took to their heels, when the Police got to the scene.