

2 dead, scores injured as leadership tussle rocks RTEAN in Lagos

By Olasunkanmi Akoni

AT least two persons were reportedly killed and scores injured in a power tussle among members of the Road Transport Employers Association of Nigeria, RTEAN, yesterday at Akesan, Igando area of Lagos State.

Normal business activities were disrupted in the early hours as students, workers and motorists were stranded in the melee that ensued.

An eyewitness, Mr Akeem

Saheed, said the trouble started at about 8a.m following misunderstanding bordering on power tussle, which led to the violent clash.

He added that during the duel, there were sporadic gunshots with dangerous weapons such as axes, cutlasses, daggers, knives, among others freely used.

Saheed narrated: "I saw two bodies lying in their pool of blood, while others were seen with blood-stained clothes all over them.

"The activities of these transport union members in Akesan have become a recurring decimal without any check from relevant authorities of the state.

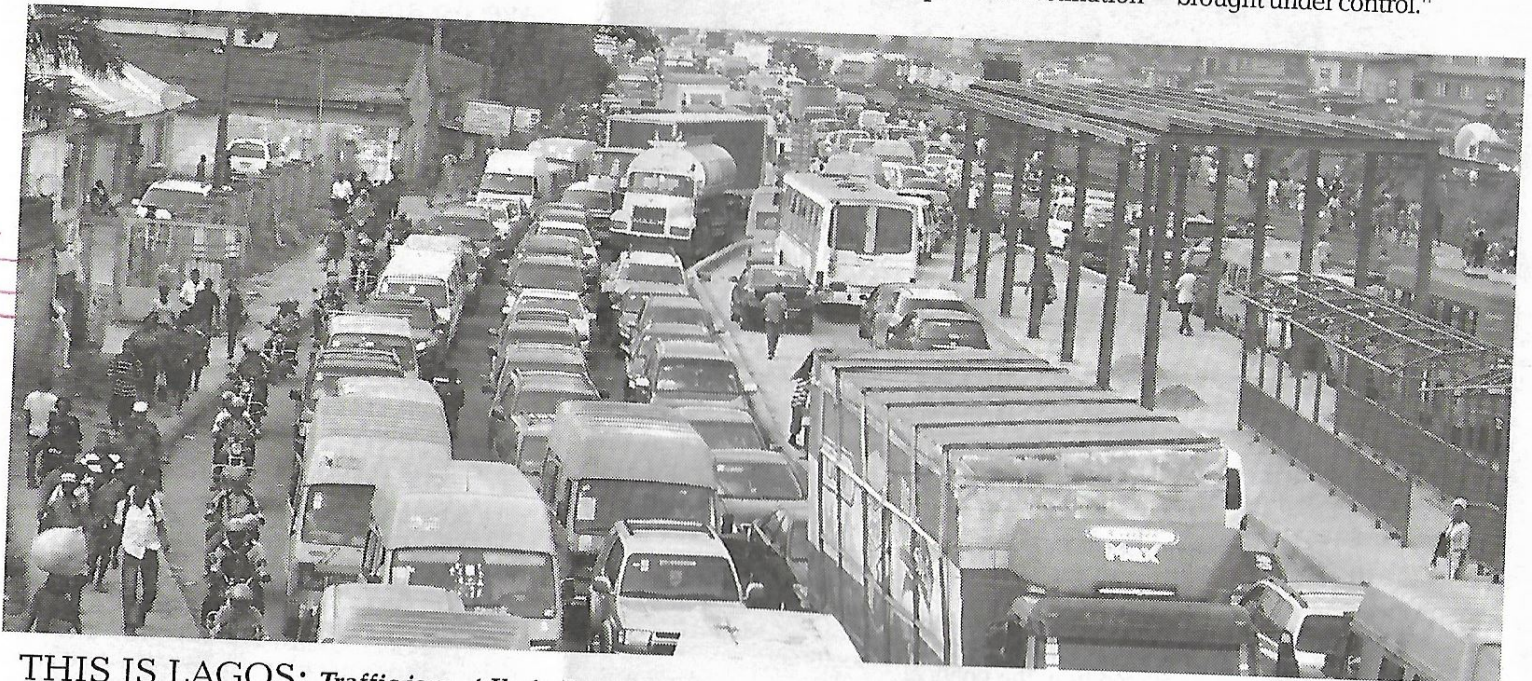
"My 10-year-old daughter was lucky when she was caught up in their crossfire. Thank God the girl, by intuition, ran towards her school on sighting one of the cutlass-wielding thugs.

"The most painful part is that up till now (10 am) no presence of Police as people going to work or their respective destination

scampered for dear lives.

"Majority of the residents have fled their homes for fear of being attacked from the warring parties."

When contacted, a senior police officer attached to the Rapid Response Squad, RRS, of the State Police Command, confirmed the incident, saying that "Our men have been dispatched to restore normalcy in the area. There is no cause for alarm; everything will soon be brought under control."



THIS IS LAGOS: Traffic jam on a major road.