

One dies, other injured as rival groups clash in Osun

2 By Shina Abubakar

OSOGBO—A bloody clash between rival gangs during a traditional festival in Ido-Osun, Egbedore Local Government Area of Osun State, Saturday, reportedly claimed the life of a young man identified as Sodiq.

But the state police command attributed his death to a motorcycle accident and not gang-related fight.

It was gathered that the clash between the gangs started at the Osun groove during the Osun-Osogbo festival last Friday but the heavy presence of security operatives

made them to shield their swords.

However, it was gathered that the groups met at the Ido-Osun festival the following day where they finally clashed.

A source disclosed that the deceased went to the festival with his father from Oluode compound in Osogbo and were about to leave the venue before he decided to join his friends.

The source stated that other members of Sodiq's group ran away when he was being attacked, leaving him and one other behind, adding that after attempts to kill them with gun and cutlass failed, they were smacked with a club on the heads.

They were, however, rushed to LAUTECH Teaching Hospital in Osogbo, where Sodiq was confirmed dead, while the other man is still receiving treatment at the intensive care unit.

Osun State Police Public Relations Officer, Yemisi Opalola, told journalists that the death of the victim was due to a fatal motorcycle accident in the town.

She said the gangs arrived Ido-Osun from Osogbo around 8 pm, Saturday, to celebrate a festival on different motorcycles driving recklessly and wielding dangerous weapons before two of the riders had a head-on-head collision.