

Gunmen kill one, injure three in Osun community attack

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The Osun State Police Command on Tuesday confirmed the killing of a 19-year-old, Timileyin Oni, in Ijebu-Jesa by yet-to-be-identified individuals.

The command also said three people were injured and hospitalised in the incident that claimed Oni's life.

Speaking with PUNCH Metro on the incident, the state Police Public Relations Officer, Abiodun Ojelabi, said preliminary findings suggested that the incident was cult-related.

“The incident happened around 11 pm on Monday. We received a report that there was a shooting at the T&K Junction in Ijebu-Jesa, and the police mobilised to the scene.

“On getting there, we met the lifeless body of a 19-year-old boy, Timileyin Oni. The police took him to the hospital, where he was confirmed dead.

“We saw an injury on his head, suspected to be a gunshot wound. We took him to the mortuary, and we contacted his family members,” he said.

He further explained that the father of the deceased, in a statement made at the police station, said Oni was attacked while returning from church.

Ojelabi added, “About three others were injured. We are still investigating. I don’t want to go into what is going on on social media from political parties.

“There was a warning issued by the police yesterday against celebrating 7/7 by cultists, and from all indications, it is cult-related. No arrest has been made as we speak, but the anti-cultism unit has been drafted to the area.”

Meanwhile, the Accord Party and the All Progressives Congress in the state have been trading accusations over the incident.



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Earlier, the spokesperson for the Imole Campaign Council, Pelumi Olajengbesi, in a social media post, announced the killing of Oni and blamed it on the APC.

“How many people will be killed because of politics and power?” Olajengbesi wrote.

“This is my hometown tonight. Armed thugs drove into Ijebu-Jesa and started firing sporadically. An innocent young man has been killed, four others have been injured, and the entire town has been thrown into panic. This is what Osun APC calls politics.

“Those who care to know should know this today: anyone responsible for the shedding of innocent blood should remember that karma is real. You do not take a human life because of political power. It is shameful. It is disgraceful.

“This is a stain on our democracy and a shame on Nigeria as a nation. Shame on those who believe that the path to power must be paved with the blood of innocent people. This page doesn't support violence,” he said.

But responding, the Oriade Local Government Chairman, Olubunmi Obeisun, in a statement signed by his media aide, Olayinka Awoyemi, dismissed Olajengbesi's claim.

He said, “One of the survivors, Oginni Olamide Oluwole, narrated how the incident occurred. According to him, he is an indigene of Ere-Ijesa but resides in Ijebu-Ijesa. He explained that he and others were on their way to church when they stopped to buy sachet water before they suddenly noticed two men on motorcycles, dressed like bouncers, who allegedly opened fire in their direction.

“Olamide said they immediately ran into a nearby shop in an attempt to escape the attack. However, he alleged that one of the gunmen pursued them into the shop and continued shooting. He said the attack resulted in the death of his brother, Timileyin, while he sustained a gunshot injury to his hand.”

Noting that the incident had nothing to do with the APC, Obeisun further said the survivor confirmed that he was a committed APC member and insisted that the attackers were not members of the party.

PUNCH Metro reports that the ruling Accord Party and the opposition APC have frequently traded blame whenever violence is recorded in any part of the state.