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Father of two killed at campaign rally in Delta

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A FATHER of two, Mr. Remember Akpototor, was allegedly killed by a Mobile Policeman at a Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) campaign rally in Ewu, Ughelli South Local Government Area of Delta State, at the weekend.

The incident happened at a joint campaign rally by the former Commissioner for Education during the Chief James Ibori administration and Delta Central Senatorial candidate, Chief Ighoyota Amori, the PDP candidate for Udu/Ughelli North and South Federal Constituency, Mr. Solomon Awhinawhi, as well as their counterpart in the House of Assembly for Ughelli South, Mr Talib Tebite in the area.

The victim's former school mates under the umbrella of Otu-Jeremi Secondary School Old Students' Association (OSSOSA) have petitioned Governor Emmanuel Uduaghan and the state police commissioner over the alleged killing, saying they should intervene and ensure that justice is done.

They alleged that the security agent fired the shot, which killed the victim, while trying to disperse a surging crowd which purportedly prevented a PDP candidate from leaving the venue of the rally in Ewu, Ughelli South Local Government Area of the state.

It was gathered that Amori, Awhinawhi and Tebite were at Ewu for the campaign rally when irate youths surged at them at the end of the event, demanding that they should be 'settled', otherwise they would not remove the barricade which they placed on the road.

Amori and Tebite managed to evade the barricade but Awhinawhi, a member of the House of Representatives, was held up by the youth.

"In a desperate move to disperse the surging youth and clear the way for the lawmaker, the mobile police officer allegedly fired several shots, one of which allegedly hit the victim who died instantly," said an eyewitness account.

The group's National President, Omiragua Famous Utuama, and Secretary, Oshehor James Eseweta, called on Uduaghan to wade into the matter, saying that since the incident, neither Amori, Awhinawhi nor Tebite has deemed it fit to take responsibility for the killing.

The body decried what it described as the insensitivity of the three candidates to the incident, saying: "We are clearly amazed and disappointed that days after Akporortor undeservedly died from the bullets of your security details while supporting your campaigns, Awhinawhi or anyone of you has not deemed it proper to condole or confer with the family of the deceased."

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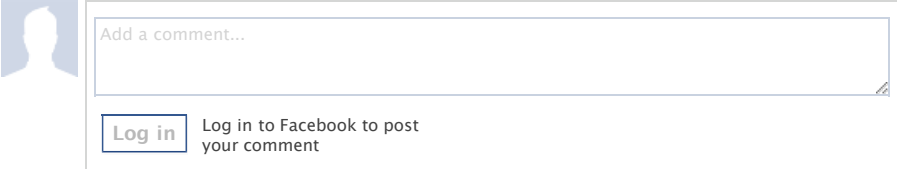
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