



# Daily Champion

FRIDAY, JULY 28, 2006

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VOLUME 19

NO. 149

Printed simultaneously in Lagos and Owerri

N80

## ...One killing, too many

MEANACHO  
OLATUNBOSUN SOWEMIMO and  
FEMI IKUGBAYIGBE

THE killing yesterday of eminent politician and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) governorship aspirant in Lagos State, Chief Funso Williams by unknown

assailants has further heightened anxiety and tension on the nation's political atmosphere in the build-up to 2007 polls.

Coming less than a month after the killing of another aspirant on the platform of the newly registered Advanced Congress of Democrats (ACD) in Plateau State, Chief Jesse

Aruku, Williams assassination in his palatial Dolphin Estate, Ikoyi, Lagos home has unleashed palpable feeling of insecurity and fears on, not only residents of the two states but Nigerians generally.

The widespread condemnation and outpouring

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## ...Gani, Balarabe condemn act

OLATUBOSUN SOWEMIMO

SECOND Republic governor of Kaduna State, Alhaji Abdulkadir Balarabe Musa and legal luminary, Chief Gani Fawehinmi (SAN) yesterday condemned assassination of Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) chieftain, Chief Funso Williams saying it portends grave danger for the nation's democracy.

They predicted more political violence and killings ahead of 2007 general elections if concerted efforts are not made by security agencies and Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to sanitize the polity.

In separate interviews with *Daily Champion* on telephone, the duo charged the INEC as well as Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) to stop corrupt politicians and those with record of violence from contesting next year's

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ICONS

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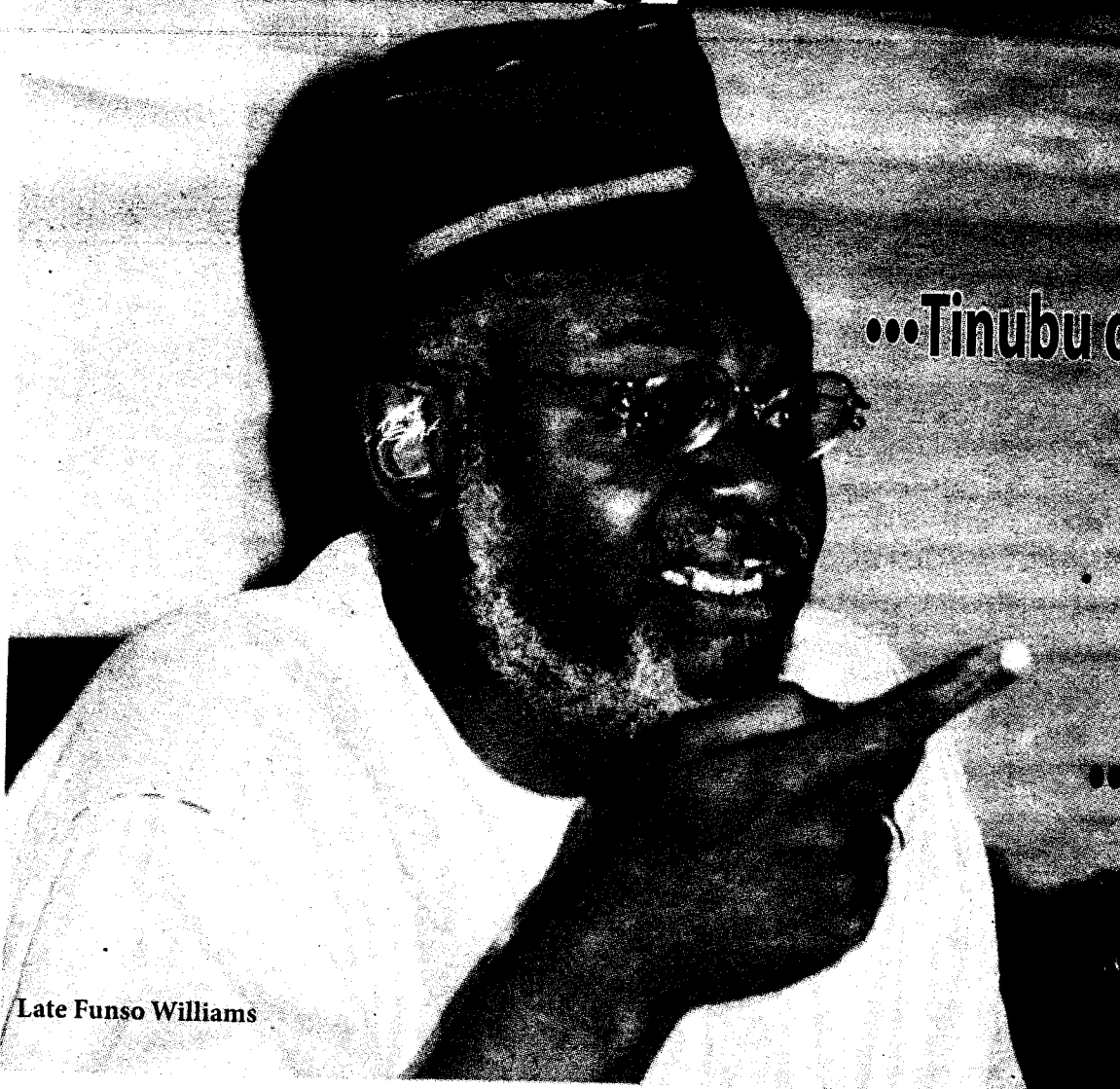
## COUNTRYMAN

MORE NIGERIANS RUN  
MAD—REPORT



THEN LET'S TURN OUR  
SCHOOLS TO PSYCHIA-  
TRIC HOSPITALS

# Funso Williams strangled



Late Funso Williams

KASIE ABONE, LUKKEY ABAWURU and  
MANSUR OLADUNJOYE

PEOPLES Democratic Party (PDP) governorship candidate in 2003 election and former Lagos State Works Commissioner, Chief Funso Williams was yesterday killed by suspected assassins in his Dolphin Estate, Ikoyi, Lagos residence.

His death came barely three weeks after another governorship aspirant on the platform of Advanced Congress of Democrats (ACD) in Plateau State, Chief Jesse Aruku, was shot dead in Jos, the state capital by unknown gunmen.

However, according to a family source, Chief Williams, an engineer and a top contender for PDP governorship ticket in 2007 was strangled and butchered by assailants in his study inside his residence on 184 Corporation Avenue, Dolphin

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## ...Tinubu dangles N10m reward

LAGOS State government has placed a N10million tag on the assassins of its former Works Commissioner, Chief Funso Williams, even as it banned political activities and rallies for two weeks in honour of the slain politician.

Addressing journalists yesterday, Governor Bola Tinubu said the N10million reward would enhance the police investigation into the murder of his former rival. "We are offering N10 million for any individual, corporate body or group that can offer information that would ensure the arrest of the killers.

"We shall ensure that the gangsters do not have

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## ...Ogunlewe quizzed

KAISE ABONE

STRONG indication emerged yesterday that immediate past Works Minister, Adeseye Ogunlewe has been arrested by the police over the killing of Chief Funso Williams.

Indeed *Daily Champion* learnt that Senator Ogunlewe and other suspects arrested in connection with the incident are being detained at Zone 2 headquarters, Onikan, Lagos Island.

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## Who wants to be a millionaire?



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of emotion from notable socio-political circles when the news of Williams' sudden death filtered out yesterday aptly convey the feeling, and mindset of Nigerians.

Although the news of arrest of some individuals by the police came shortly after the heartless snuffing of life out of the easy and soft-talking Williams, many people are not placated or excited by the arrest.

They have their reason and the reason is justifiable. For one, the litany of unresolved murder cases of top politicians have left many a Nigerian with huge

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it recorded a profit after tax of N13.050, showing a significant rise of 33.20 per cent.

It would be recalled that First Bank recently emerged as the most liquid financial institution with a liquidity ratio of 54.05 per cent, while its closest rival is 39.23 per cent. The bank also has the largest deposits and capital base in 2004 with N226 billion and N39 billion, representing 12.61 per cent and 11 per cent market share respectively.

This was contained in the Central Bank of Nigeria's (CBN) Banking Supervision 2004 Annual Report, which aggregated individual bank lending to the economy since 2001.

According to the CBN, First Bank's commitment is N17 billion more than the N128 billion put in by Union Bank, which was judged the bank with the largest assets base of N377 billion. A disaggregating of the bank's market share of credit to the economy also showed that the bank has led since 2001, providing N57.69 billion in that year, N91.23 billion in 2002 and N92.94 billion in 2003.

Meanwhile, the stock market closed yesterday with a total turnover of 345,088,087 shares worth N3.354 billion traded in 6,167 deals, in contrast to 153,654,431 shares valued at N2.198 billion traded in 7,265 deals the previous day.

The NSE all-share index closed at 27,502.09 points, higher than the previous day's value of 27,426.04 points, while the market capitalisation of listed equities stood at N3.128 trillion

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Estate.

Another account said the late politician's legs and hands were tied in his bedroom before he was shot dead by the assassins between 6 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Daily Champion gathered that late Williams had arrived from a political rally about 1 a.m. yesterday and retired to his bedroom before the hoodlums gained entry to his house.

A member of the family, amidst tears informed our correspondent that the assailants never gave their victim any opportunity even as he pleaded with them for mercy.

Daily Champion learnt that eight people including four mobile policemen, two private security guards and two house raids (names withheld) have already been arrested and handed over to the police.

Another staff of the household told our reporter that as at the time the assailants got entry into Williams' bedroom, none of the four mobile policemen guiding him was around.

This, according to the sympathizers brought to fore the way the former Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Chief Bola Ige was assassinated on December 23, 2001

## One killing too many

room to engage in suspicion, doubts and speculations about the commitment of security agents to the provision of security in the land.

Take a look at the many high profile assassinations and how they ended.

On December 23, 2001, then Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Bola Ige was murdered in his Ibadan home. The assailants carried out their dastardly act uncaught even when the slain minister had security operatives guiding

him.

Investigations and litigations on the murder lasted for more than two years, with new twists and dimensions emerging everyday. At the end the probe ended on uncertain note.

As the nation was grappling with the grim reality of Ige's death, Chief Marshall Harry, former deputy chairman South of the All Nigeria's Peoples Party (ANPP) was murdered in his Abuja home, few months to the 2003 general election.

The killing of the ANPP chieftains raised huge dusts and threw up diverse interpretations and insinuations. Again, the investigation to the case ended inconclusive.

Like the case of Marshall Harry, investigations into the assassination of Chief Ogbonnaya Uche (aka OGB), a former Commissioner in Imo State and an ANPP senatorial candidate for Orlu district have refused to produce his killers.

All cries, lamentations and calls by his family and Imo State government that OGB's killers should be unmasked have remained a mere wish.

But if the nation was mesmerized by the killing of the above political actors and their killers still unknown, the assassination of the National Vice Chairman (South South) of PDP, Chief I. K. Dikkibo while on his way to a political meeting in Asaba, Delta State threw the country into confusion and deep mourning.

As it was the case in the aforementioned killings, several arrests were made by the police but nobody was identified as Dikkibo's killer. The situation set tongue wagging and flaks heaped on security operatives.

Apart from politicians there have also been assassinations of several prominent Nigerians and none of them have been trailed with a cherry news of killers being nabbed. A case in point is that of Chief Alaba Joseph of Mobitel.

But more than anything, yesterday's assassination of Williams has strengthened fears about the shape the 2007 polls will take. It has also placed on the table questions about the ability of police to secure the political landscape and Nigerians generally as election approaches.

and console the family members.

Daily Champion recalls that last Sunday loyalists of the former Minister of Works, Senator Adeseye Ogunlewe clashed with those of the slain Williams thereby causing tension in the state chapter of the PDP.

The conflict started when Senator Ogunlewe who hails from Ikorodu refused to condone the siting of Funso Williams Campaign Office at Ogbara House on Ayangburem Road. He saw it as an affront.

As meeting of the Williams' group was going on at the campaign office when Ogunlewe's supporters reportedly invaded the venue at about 2:30 p.m. and hot arguments developed into a fracas.

Despite the fact that the police were called in to stop the fighting, scores of supporters from both sides incurred different degrees of injuries.

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The former minister was reportedly driven in his jeep with registration number CH 350 ABJ to the headquarters at 4.45pm accompanied by the Commander Area H, Ogudu, Lagos, Mr. Olusan, Assistant Commissioner of Police.

Our correspondent gathered that homicide detectives from the Federal Criminal Investigations Department (FCID) Annexed led by Assistant Commissioner

ODOGWU  
ODOGWU, Awka

EMEKA

INSPECTOR General of Police, (IGP) Mr Sunday Ehindero yesterday ordered immediate transfer of over 3,000 officers and men of the Nigeria Police from Anambra State, as part of efforts to end the lingering crisis in the embattled state.

The acting Commissioner of Police, Mr John Haruna who disclosed this in the floor of the State House of Assembly said the same number will be replaced by men from other states.

Mr Haruna, who was in the House on the invitation of the House of Assembly said, "Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to announce that the Inspector General of Police has ordered

## PDP denies ING plot

ABIODUN ADELAJA, and  
SYLVESTER AKOR, Abuja

PEOPLES Democratic Party (PDP) yesterday distanced itself from the clamour by some groups that an Interim National Government be constituted to succeed President Olusegun Obasanjo, insisting that the party would not accept anything less than the enthronement of a democratically elected government on May 29, 2007.

The PDP said this even as the Nigerian Labour Congress (NLC) president, Comrade Adams Oshiomhole declared that those canvassing the option are coup plotters who should be executed.

The PDP's position was the highpoint of decisions reached at the end of the 122nd meeting of the National Working Committee (NWC) of the party.

The party in a statement at the end of the meeting in Abuja, said it was rather working towards an orderly, peaceful

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have a place in our state, because political assassination and intolerance are not our tradition, and are not good for our nation," he asserted.

The governor however underscored the political tone of the dastard act saying "all the information reaching me point to political assassination, that is why we are appealing and assisting the police to be able to solve this riddle."

"We shall combat political violence and assassination with all the resources our state can mobilize; I trust the capability of the Inspector-General of Police [IGP] Mr. Sunday Ehindero to perform beyond expectation in unraveling the mystery surrounding Engineer Funso Williams," Tinubu noted.

The governor said, "I have directed the IGP not to issue permit of political rallies and campaign for two weeks in honour and memory of our Funso Williams, I hereby plead with all political office holders and political office seekers to bear with us and honour him."

Governor Tinubu urged all political parties in the country to re-orientate their members on the need to be accommodating so as not to undermine the nation's peace, which he pointed is the major

## Ogunlewe

of Police (ACP) Marcus Donald have commenced full investigation into Williams' death last night.

However, another account said Senator Ogunlewe travelled abroad Tuesday night.

Contacted on the issue on phone last night, Force Public Relations Officers, Mr. Haz Iwendi declined comment.

## I-G orders transfer of 3,000 officers from Anambra

the immediate transfer of more than 3,000 police officers and men out of Anambra with immediate effect."

According to him, they will be replaced by the same number of officers and men drawn from other parts of the country, saying "this is the first time a transfer of this magnitude is taking place in the South East zone hence 'the command envisages problems of accommodation, adaptation, welfare among others'."

Governor Peter Obi said some eminent persons have been clamoring for relocation of the officers in the state following alleged conspiracy between them and the members of National Association of Transport Workers (NATW) who have been alleged masterminding the bus of police stations in Anambra state.

and smooth transition from the present administration to another civilian administration.

According to the statement signed by National Publicity Secretary, John Odey, the PDP urged all registered political parties, the Independent National

Electoral Commission (INEC) and "other bodies concerned with the electoral process put their acts together to commence in earnest the process of electioneering to ensure the realisation of democratic goal."

## ACD condemns Williams' assassination

THE Advanced Congress of Democrats (ACD) has condemned in the brutal murder of Chief Funso Williams, a prominent leader and gubernatorial aspirant of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in Lagos State.

The party said yesterday had the murder of Williams in the early hours of yesterday had once again brought to the front burner the issue of politically motivated violence which has engulfed the nation in the last couple of

months.

The party, according to spokesman, Lai Mohammed cited the murder of Chief Aruku, the late gubernatorial aspirant of ACD in Plateau State and the orgy of intra party violence in Lagos State last weekend.

"At the Advanced Congress of democrats, we are in conflict with other political parties, and we believe that no level of disagreement whether intra or inter party should degenerate to the level of assassination."

"While we commiserate with the family and Political Associates of late Williams, the Advanced Congress of Democrats calls on the Federal Government to ensure that assassination of Williams does not join the list of unresolved politically motivated murders in the land."

"Finally, the Advanced Congress of Democrats reiterates its earlier call for all politicians summit in Abuja run up to the 2007 election," Mohammed added.

## Tinubu

tonic for the success of the country's on-going democracy.

He described late Williams as an easy going man, recalling his close relationship with the deceased, both as an ordinary member of the Alliance for Democracy [AD] and as his rival in the 2003 gubernatorial election.

His words, "he was never known to be a violent man, throughout our political relationship and in 2003, we never clashed violently."

## Gani

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elections. Expressing outrage over the incident, Gani said: "It is very shocking and bad omen to sustenance of democracy in the country."

"It shows that we are going to experience chaos, violence and bloodshed in 2007, I am afraid the casualty will be democracy itself."

"You cannot have free and fair elections, when fraudsters are allowed to run for elections. So both the INEC and EFCC must stop them."

Gani warned politicians against truncating democracy saying that they will pay dearly for it if that happens.

Also reacting, Balarabe Musa said Funso's death was indicative of the level of insecurity in the country stressing that "we should expect more of this before 2007."

He said the trend if unchecked could degenerate into anarchy and truncating the nation's democracy.

He therefore called on the federal government to aid quarterly fund the Nigeria Police Force to enable policemen perform their statutory duty of safeguarding lives and property in the country.

## Ehindero relocates

MALACHY UZENDU, Abuja

FOLLOWING the murder of late Williams, the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) gubernatorial candidate of Lagos State, Mr. Funso Williams, Inspector-General of Police (IGP), Mr. Sunday Ehindero has relocated to Lagos.

According to the Force Public Relations Officer (FPRO), Mr. Haz Iwendi, IGP is disturbed by the murder and has relocated to Lagos. We are carrying out detailed investigation of the matter."

In a telephone interview with our reporter, the Police spokesman said "the IGP has ordered a high-powered investigation into the matter. He is also personally in Lagos to assess the situation and have spread our dragnets."

"The two policemen who were on guard there have been arrested and they are being quizzed."



# Funso Williams' assassination



• A crowd of supporters gathering to confirm the killing of Chief Funso Williams at his Dolphin Estate residence yesterday.



• Elderly women weeping at Williams' residence yesterday

Photos: Kingston Daniel

## Friends, associates mourn Williams

OLATUBOSUN SOWEMIMO and FEMI IKUGBAYIGBE

THERE was an outpouring of emotion at the Dolphin Estate, Ikoyi Lagos residence of the late politician Engr. Funso Williams as both political associates, friends and party supporters wailed and cried uncontrollably.

They were uttering diverse touching comments like: "PDP is finished in Lagos," "Funso killers will not go unpunished," "Our benefactor is gone," among others.

At his family house in Yaba, the aged mother rolled on the floor with relatives and sympathisers consoling and urging her to bear the loss.

Many gathered around and rained curses on the killers, vowing to deal with anybody behind the dastardly act.

Back to Dolphin, Chief Bode George wearing a long face, described the incident as shocking and unbelievable.

He said the incident is most shocking for both the state and the party but urged residents of Lagos to remain calm.

"I appeal to everyone to be calm because if there is commotion, we won't be able to get to the end of the matter. No stone will be left unturned. It is unacceptable and PDP will never

take this."

Mr. Adedeji Doherty, a PDP governorship aspirant in his own short comment said the incident is very disturbing and barbaric which is uncalled for. He said the assassination is a setback for democracy and politics in Nigeria.

"We hope things will change in future. This shows how low people can descend in politics. I pray God will be with his family, and give them the fortitude to bear the loss." The gubernatorial aspirant said he was with the late Williams at Onikan on Wednesday at a meeting to discuss the security of the state with the Assistant Inspector General of police, in charge of zone 2, Mr. Adedayo Adeoye who told them to always maintain peace and cooperate with one another.

Another gubernatorial aspirant in Ogun State, Otunba Dipo Dina contended that the killing was political in nature as his (Williams) campaign rally was disrupted at Ikorodu last week.

He described the incident as very devastating as the deceased could not hurt a fly.

"I don't think it should be a do or die affair. If we want to serve the people it should be with all fairness to God and the people we are to serve."

PDP Chairman, Lagos main-

land local government Pastor Olabode Oluwole, who alleged that Mr. Williams' death was a conspiracy by close associates

said the situation is very sad to him and to the party as a whole as he spoke with him late Wednesday night.

"We still planned about today's (Thursday's) rally at Eti Osa and Island local governments till mid-night"

He described the late man as a nice and pleasant fellow who is always at the beck and call of the less privileged.

## ...The man, his struggles

JUSTUS NWAKANMA

AMBITION, the ability to cling to a course without regarding the dire consequences, is known to have killed many bright men. Struggle, its sister of holding forte against overwhelming odds, has also known to ruin many bright minds.

Little wonder, the death yesterday of Engr. Funso Williams, is an eloquent testimony to the saying that the ambitious, is a debtor to two things: success or failure. Each could come with its deadlier combustion. And so, death came for him, on the threshold of the quest to consummate his ambition of being the governor of Lagos State.

Late Williams went into politics after he served as a commissioner during the regime of Col. Oyinola Oyinola in Lagos State. He first joined the defunct United Nigeria Congress Party (UNCP) under the late General Sanni Abacha. After the death of the former head of state, he moved to the Alliance for Democracy (AD). He later joined the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

In 1999 election, he won the gubernatorial primaries using the platform of the Network Alliance. It was a group that had a large following in all the local governments in the state, but in an election that he was believed widely to have won, the AD rather chose Alhaji Ahmed Tinubu as its governorship candidate. This led him to decamp to the PDP where he also contested the 2003 elections and lost.

Recently, he gave vent to his ambition to rule Lagos state when he inaugurated Williams Campaign Organisation, (WILLCO), the platform for the realization of his gubernatorial ambition in Lagos State. He appeared virtually unchallenged, until Senator Oluseye Ogunlewe, the former Works Minister who ran into trouble waters as a result of internal political scheming in the inner caucus of the PDP, declared his ambition to contest the gubernatorial election in the state. His coming polarized the seeming cohesion in the party and set Ogunlewe against Williams.

The party had to send a reconciliation team to the state headed by Gen. Murtala Nyakó to settle the internal wrangling in the party. Although several meetings were held with the stakeholders, the party failed to reach a consensus the choice of a candidate to carry the party's banner in 2007. This appeared to have widened the existing nuance in, leading to the violent clash between the supporters of Williams and Ogunlewe penultimate week.

Recently, he has this to say on his relationship with Ogunlewe: "Senator

Ogunlewe was my colleague in the civil service and a benefactor of my large heartedness. After the AD primaries in 1999, the patriarchs in the AD wanted to compensate me with a senatorial position and he had earlier told me when I was running to be a governor that, he wanted to be a senator. So, I have to appeal to the Afenifere patriarchs to give it to him. I always believe that, God's time being the best; I have been very consistent in the desire to be governor since 1998. So, if he (Ogunlewe) feels that it is what I have been asking God for since 1998 that he now wants, good luck to him."

He is believed to have been very close to Chief Bode George and Chief Rasheed Alaba Williams, the PDP chairman in Lagos State, which is why he is the most favoured candidate. But the truth remains that since 1999, he has been building a massive political structure in Lagos and this places him at an advantage over the other contestants.

Born on May 9, 1948, he attended St. Paul's Roman Catholic School, Ebute Metta between 1954 and 1961 for his primary education and St. Gregory's College, Obalende for his secondary career from 1962 to 1968. In 1968, having passed three "A" level papers in lower sixth form, he proceeded to the University of Lagos to pursue a Bachelor of Science (B. Sc) degree programme in Civil Engineering, in 1971. From here he enrolled with New Jersey Institute of Technology, USA, where he obtained a Master of Science in Engineering (MSCE) degree in 1974.

After graduation, he joined the service of the Lagos State Government as an executive Engineer Grade 1 in the defunct Ministry of Works and Planning. He was later promoted to

the position of co-coordinating director, Civil Engineering and Building in the same Ministry in 1986. The following year, 1987 he was appointed the Permanent Secretary later designated Director-General in the same Ministry, a post he held until his retirement in January 1992. In fact, he was the first engineer employed by the ministry to become the head of the Lagos State Ministry of Works.

His activities both as Director-General and as Commissioner for Works have been most commendable. He was involved in the following road projects, Igbo Okuta road, Aja-Badore-Langbasa road in Eti Osa, Gbaji-Aseri road in Badagry, Igbonla road and Bridge in Epe, Lagos-Epe road, Kaiyetoro Eleko Road, Coastal and Maiyegun road.

He was also the brain behind the planning and execution to the completion of other road projects that have great impact on all sectors of the economy. Those projects include the Isolo road, in Isolo, Igbo-Ofin-Oreta road in Ikorodu, Agege-Egan road (access to the Lagos State University), Ipaja-Idimu road, Carter Bridge (West Ramp), Opebi Link Road, Airport Road Flyover, the dualisation of Ikorodu road up to Owode-Onirin, Iju-Jonathan Coker road, in Surulere Sanya Street and the provision of box-culverts on the Aguda Canal. Notably, the Ikorodu road project initiated by him was later completed through direct labour. One of his most outstanding contributions to the development of Lagos State is that he initiated the move and wrote the memorandum that led to the completion of the Third Mainland Bridge.

He was a bright and distinguished athlete in his younger years. He was a member of the Lagos State team from 1968 while a student at St. Gregory's College. In addition to being the Lagos State Hussey Shield Team Captain in 1968, he was the national schoolboy shot put champion from 1965 to 1968. He was also a West African Universities Games Gold Medalist in shot put and Discus at Sierra Leone event in 1969.

## Daniel, Afikuyomi open up

KOLA ADEPOJU, Abeokuta

GOVERNOR Gbenga Daniel of Ogun State has described the assassination of Williams as a "devastating blow to democracy", just as Senator Tokunbo Afikuyomi blamed PDP for the dastardly act.

Pan Yoruba socio, cultural group, Afenifere, however, accused PDP leadership, especially in Lagos State where Williams was in strong contention for the party's ticket of killing him.

Daniel in his reaction said Williams death was a rude shock even as he described him as "a perfect gentleman and an accomplished technocrat and politician as well as an ardent believer in the course of democracy".

Daniel urged security agents to unravel the perpetrators of the act even as he commiserated with President Olusegun

Obasanjo, the PDP family and the relations of the deceased.

Also reacting to his death, in a late phone chat with *Daily Champion*, Afenifere chieftain, Senator Femi Okunroumu accused PDP leaders especially in Lagos State of killing Williams.

According to Okunroumu, "Williams' killers are within PDP. They killed him to stop his governorship ambition."

"If PDP chieftain can be killing one another now, you can imagine what they can do to rival parties", he added.

Afikuyomi berated the assassins, saying "today, the agents of death within the PDP have vindicated Nobel Laureate, Professor Wole Soyinka that, the party is indeed nothing but a nest of killers."

According to him, it is sad that the many rehearsals of brigandage that began with the formation of FERMA

and shamelessly premiered on the football field at Gbagada last Sunday July 23 could be climaxed with the brutal murder of a man who selflessly offered his life for further service to the people of Lagos State after many years in the Lagos State Civil Service.

He urged the Inspector-General of Police, Mr. Sunday Ehindero to speedily track down the killers and bring them to justice rather than populate the data base of unresolved political assassinations with yet the murder of Williams.

Nigerians he noted have not forgotten the many unanswered questions still raised by the brutal assassinations of the late Justice Minister, Chief Bola Ige, Aminosari Dikkibo, Harry Marshall, the Anambra State NBA Chairman, the Kogi State PDP Chairman and other notable citizens during the ignoble reign of the PDP.

## ...His death, a surprise

-Ayodele

**PRIMATE Babatunde Elijah Ayodele, Head, INRI Evangelical Spiritual Church:**

"The news of his death may have come to many as a surprise. To me, it is not a surprise, because I have already foretold of some of these happenings."

"Remember that on Page 15 of my book of *Predictions on 2006/2007, Warning to the Nations*, I said the country was going to witness the activities of hired killers, political disagreements and violence."

"This is just the beginning, but we need a lot of prayers to overcome. Politicians should get closer to God so as to avoid falling into this kind of trap."

"If you ask me, I would say that this development portends a lot danger for 2007, particularly for Lagosians. This has the capacity of worsening the already strained relationship among politicians in the state."