

Farmer jailed 10 years for killing man over N80

From Yahaya Ibrahim, Maiduguri

A Maiduguri High Court yesterday sentenced 40-year-old farmer Shettima Matakun of Gumari village in Monguno Local Government Area of Borno State, to 10 years imprisonment for killing one Fema Bulama over N80.

Matakun, according to court documents, was said to have pushed the deceased, Bulama into a pile of wood during a fight over the money, causing

him serious injury on the head.

Police witnesses told the court that the deceased was taken to a hospital for treatment, but that he died the following day as a result of the injury.

One of the witnesses, Ali Zakai, said that the deceased gave Matakun N100 to buy him cigarette of N20, but that after buying the cigarette, Matakun refused to return the change. He added that, it was that action that led to the fight between the two.

The convicted man, in his con-

fessional statement to the police, which was tendered to the court, admitted that he pushed Bulama into a pile of firewood, causing him serious injury. But the statement had a different version of what led to the fight.

"He told me to help him collect his N80 from Ali and pay for a drink (illicit gin) he bought. I collected the money and paid for the drink. He later came to me, asking for the money and I told him that I have paid for the drink. But he grabbed the collar of my shirt

and in an attempt to free myself from him, I pushed him and he fell into a pile of firewood and he sustained injury," part of the statement read.

The accused man was charged for culpable homicide.

The judge, Justice Pinder Haruna Ngadda, said the prosecution counsel proved beyond reasonable doubt that the accused committed the offence and sentenced Matakun to 10 years imprisonment without an option of fine.

Gov's wife tasks parents on cholera

From Adewale Giwa, Akure

THE wife of Ondo State Governor Olusegun Mimiko, Mrs. Oluwakemi Mimiko, yesterday charged parents in the country to ensure that their environments are kept clean at all times and to also keep children away from contaminated water.

Mrs. Mimiko, who spoke at a meeting with women groups in the state, said good hygiene is the only recipe for the prevention of cholera.

She said there was a need to teach children the importance of washing their hands before and after meals.

"The importance of hand washing cannot be over emphasized because we encounter germs as we move about our daily activities. We need to wash our hands as often as possible, especially when we visit toilets and most importantly before we eat," she said.

Centre trains police AIGs on leadership, professionalism

From Chris Agabi, Lagos

THE Centre for Management Development in Lagos on Monday commenced training of Assistant Inspectors General (AIGs) of the Nigeria Police Force on leadership skills.

Addressing the AIGs, the Director General of the center, Dr. Kabir Kabo Usman, said the workshop would equip the participants with management and supervisory techniques, to build and manage their teams effectively for the attainment of the force's objectives.

He said the workshop targeted policy makers, legislators and top government officials because such skills were needed by them to perform their duties effectively.

He expressed the hope that at the end of the five-day workshop, the participants would be able to analyse leadership issues in their various sections.

4 held over killing of 2 cops

From Adewale Giwa, Akure

POLICE in Ondo State say they have arrested four suspected armed robbers who allegedly killed two police constables in Okeluse, Ose Local Government Area of the state.

They are Odunayo Akinwale, Muiwa Omoboriowo, Francis Omorege and Gbenga Olu.

The suspected robbers are said to have killed Constables Ibironke Adebawale and Adewale Peter at the Okeluse police post on August 2, 2010, after attacking the residence of one Ibijoke Iwabi at number 2A Obalende Street, Arimogija in Ose Local Government Area.

They were said to have stolen a Honda Accord vehicle valued at N750,000 belonging to Mrs. Ibijoke, before invading the Okeluse police post.



FROM left: Prof. Tunde Babawale, Director-General, Centre for Black and African Arts and Civilisation (CBAAC), Prof. Alaba Ogunsanwo of Lead City University, Alhaji Abubakar Mohammed, Minister of Tourism, Culture and National Orientation, and NTDC director general Otumba Olusegun Runsewe, at a conference on the past, present and future of African arts in Abuja yesterday.

Chemical Society begins research on Zamfara lead poisoning

From Kehinde Akinyemi, Abeokuta

THE President of the Chemical Society of Nigeria (CSN), Prof. Felix Okieimen yesterday, said the body has commenced research into the recent lead poisoning incident that claimed several lives in Zamfara State.

Okieimen, who spoke with *Daily Trust*, shortly after speaking at the opening ceremony of

the 33rd annual international conference and exhibition of the society in Abeokuta, Ogun State, said two groups had been set up for the purpose.

"Two groups have been set up by the society, one, to look at the organic compounds in our society and the other to carry out a detailed study of what caused the lead poisoning in Zamfara State. We hope to find out why and how

such a problem occurred and we are doing it on our own, government is not involved. Human beings are responsible for the chemical changes, which are responsible for global warming, flood and desertification. Studies are on-going and by next year, the reports will be made public," he said.

On the theme of the conference, which is "Green Chem-

istry and Sustainable Development: Challenges and Prospects," Okieimen said since the concept of Green Chemistry was new to the Nigerian system, it was necessary to draw the attention of the public and government to it.

"The Green Chemistry is a new concept, so we are working with countries with well-established laboratories," he added.

Law school students, graduates protest over unpaid scholarships

From Hir Joseph, Lafia

SOME graduates and current students of the Nigerian Law School who are indigenes of Nasarawa State yesterday in Lafia protested against the state government's failure to pay their scholarship for three years.

Led by the executive committees of the three sets of 2008/2009, 2009/2010 and 2010/2011 sessions, the protesters who bore placards with various messages, said the administration of Doma discontinued with a good policy to aide law students. Some of the placards read, "No education for the poor?", "No Scholarship, No 2011", "No Scholarship,

No DOSA (Doma's campaigners), "Doma is killing education in Nasarawa."

The students said they were surprised that government was making claims about the implementation of the education aspect of its development blueprint while students of various institutions including the Law School had all the while been denied scholarships.

They were led by the three union presidents of the respective sets. They are Musa Ogah for 2008/2009, Baba Ayiwulu for 2009/2010, and Ahmed Magaji of 2010/2011.

Speaking in turns, the students who marched through major roads of Lafia to

Government House and the state assembly complex, said while the state government suspended scholarships to law students, it had paid between December 2009 and presently alone, over N70 million as scholarship to students of top government officials studying abroad.

They expressed displeasure that government had made several adverts, claiming it had paid scholarships to Law School students. "We were made to obtain forms for N2,500 each, but not a dime was given to any of us. Meanwhile, government has claimed in various adverts that it has paid scholarships to law School students," added Ogah.