

him an option of N100,000 that Bello and others still genuine, to the prejudice of of his family.

## Cultists shoot, butcher wine seller on eve of election

From Eugene Agha, Lagos

A wine seller, simply identified as White, was on the eve of last Saturday's governorship and House of Assembly elections shot dead at Ijanikin, Lagos.

*City News* learnt that four members of Aiye, a deadly secret cult gang in Lagos, had allegedly stormed the shop of the deceased about 8.3pm on Friday and opened fire on him.

The cultists, to be sure of White's death, were said to have also macheted him many times.

A witness of the act said that the victim did not die immediately and was being rushed to a nearby hospital when he gave

up the ghost.

Narrating how it happened to our correspondent, the witness, who did not wish to be named, said that the gunmen shot the wine seller three times and then smashed his head with an iron rod.

"They also macheted him on the leg, hands and head before they left. Initially, those around fled thinking that the killers were robbers who were out to steal.

"On arrival, the killers met the wine seller seated on a bench with an okada (commercial motorcycle) rider. They opened fire on him. The deceased tried to run to the back of his shop, but was pursued by the cultists. The wine seller tripped over the long bench and fell. One of them grabbed hold

of an iron rod and smashed it down on his head. They then proceeded to machete him.

"An okada rider, who also owns a cab, quickly rushed him into his car and drove off to one of the hospitals in the area, where he was confirmed dead. The Good Samaritan was arrested by some policemen from the Ijanikin police station as he headed back to Alasia with the corpse of the wine seller. He has been in police custody since Friday," the witness said.

The Lagos State Commissioner of Police, Zubairu Muazu, who confirmed the killing, said that three persons had been arrested for their alleged involvement in the killing.

Muazu said that investigation was ongoing.