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Robbers kill Kogi ANPP Reps' aspirant

From Ralph Omololu Agbana, Lokoja

NEWS filtered into Lokoja, Kogi State capital yesterday, that the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) candidate for Yagba Federal Constituency in the April 2007 elections, Dr. Olubayode Olufende Aworo, is dead. Family sources said he was killed by armed robbers.

The Guardian learnt from relatives of the deceased that Aworo died in Lagos in the early hours of last Sunday from gun shots sustained during a robbery attack on the Agege-Ota Road.

Aworo, a medical practitioner and consultant to international humanitarian bodies for over 25 years and proprietor of Roland Hospital in Lagos Island, was returning from a ceremony at Ota, in company of friends when the bandits ambushed the Sport Utility Van (SUV) in which they were travelling.

The robbers allegedly opened fire on the vehicle when it appeared that the driver had manoeuvred the car from the trap set by the hoodlums.

Although they managed to escape unhurt, Aworo, who sat in the front passenger's seat, was unlucky as one of the bullets hit him in the neck. He was rushed to a hospital where he later died at about 1.00 a.m. on Sunday.

A close associate, Mr. Rinde Gbadebo-Asagun, who is also the Special Adviser to Governor Ibrahim Idris, confirmed the incident to journalists.

He also disclosed that preparations were in top gear for Aworo's remains to be buried tomorrow in his hometown, Egbe, in Yagba-West Local Council.

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Although they belonged to opposing political parties, Gbadebo-Asagun described Aworo as a genius and an asset, saying his death had robbed Nigeria and Kogi State of a brilliant star.

The late Aworo attended Titcombe College, Egbe, Kwara State College of Technology and University of Ibadan. He was married with children.

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