

Police killing: Family, friends demand justice for Oliver Ezra

From Charles Akpeji, Jalingo

FAMILY and friends of Oliver Ezra, yesterday, embarked on a peaceful protest in Jalingo, Taraba State, demanding justice for the alleged killing of Ezra

The protesters, who converged at the Government House, in Jalingo, urged the state government to as a matter of urgency wade in the matter by ensuring that the alleged perpetrator is brought to book.

They also stressed the need for government to end po-

lice brutality in the state and the country at large.

Brandishing placards with inscriptions such as, "We demand justice for Oliver", "Enough is Enough for judicial killings", "Bring the killer of Oliver to book", the protesters vowed not to relent till justice is done.

Speaking on behalf of the family, Polycap Ezra, wondered why the police charged with the responsibility of maintaining law and order are the ones igniting tensions in the state and the country.

He stressed the need for

the authority to put in place mechanisms that will checkmate police excesses.

Addressing the protesters, the State Governor, Darius Dickson Ishaku, who spoke through his Special Adviser on political matters, Alhaji Abubakar Bawa, said the government is disturbed by the way and manner Oliver was brutally killed.

The government, according to him, will collaborate with the police in ensuring that the perpetrator faces the full weight of the law.

Oliver was allegedly shot along Jalingo-Zing road by a

police sergeant, identified as Haruna Idi, over a minor argument.

The Guardian learnt that the deceased, an official driver of the chairman of Lau Local Council, was shot last week, and died yesterday, at the Federal Medical Centre (FMC), Jalingo.

Speaking on the incident, the State Police Commissioner, Abimbola Sokoya, said investigations have commenced and if the sergeant is found guilty he would not only be disciplined, but be arraigned in court.