

yesterday.

PHOTO: AYODELE ADENIRAN

FUOYE management accuses striking SSANU of complicity in death of asthmatic student

From Ayodele Afolabi, Ado-Ekiti

• Union alleges VC using security agencies to intimidate members • Strike puts UI into darkness

THE management of the Federal University Oye-Ekiti (FUOYE), yesterday, accused the striking Senior Staff Association of Nigeria Universities (SSANU) of complicity in the death of a student of the institution who was asthmatic and could not immediately get medical care due to ongoing strike that put the university clinic under lock and key.

The management of the institution noted that some universities did not shut down like FUOYE, saying that based on false information given to the national leadership of the union by the local chapter, the institution was invaded on Monday by hoodlums and shut it down.

Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration), Prof.

Tajudeen Opoola, who led other top principal officers of the university to brief newsmen in Ado-Ekiti, warned that FUOYE management would no longer fold its arms and allow breakdown of law and order under the guise of strike.

"We lost a student this morning in FUOYE who had asthma because he could not be taken to our clinic as the facility is under lock and key. It is true that students are on holiday but not all of them are living on campus.

"This morning, I was in EKSU, the administrative block is wide open. People are going about their normal duties. I am using EKSU because it is the closest as far as this environment is concerned. In EKSU today, the clinic is func-

tioning. Total or comprehensive strike is not going on in EKSU. But the same leadership of EKSU SSANU went on air yesterday to incite the public and even led some hoodlums to invade our school based on a false narrative he was fed with by chairman of FUOYE SSANU.

"Our own chairman was the one who gave false information to the National President. Since he gave the impression that he had been beaten and harassed, the national president allegedly directed that the leadership of their union in Ondo, Osun and Kwara should proceed to FUOYE to rescue the chairman. It is that immunity that the EKSU chairperson used. But we hope he won't misuse the immunity.

"As a university, we are estab-

lished by law, and we have our own autonomy. We know when we can say stop. We are not going to deal with him, but the law will deal with the situation as appropriate. The university is not going to fold arms and allow anybody in whatever name or any union to come and occupy our place. We have a way of dealing with such. Nobody is above the law.

Meanwhile, in his reaction to the allegations by the management, the FUOYE SSANU Chairman, Oluwaseun Faleye, accused the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sunday Fasina, of intimidating the leadership of the union because they refused to grant the school concession the remaining part of this

story on www.guardian.ng