

# Who Killed *Baba Sunday*?

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Kayode Aina, popularly known as Baba Sunday was a spray painter. He worked at the Mechanic Village situated along Oshodi/Mile 2 Expressway, close to Iyana Itire Bus Stop. Aina left home March 21, 2007 for Ibafo, a suburb of Lagos, to complete the payment of a piece of land he wanted to buy. But the unfortunate happened when Aina could not return home. Rather it was his corpse that was discovered at Ikorodu.

According to the information gathered from Samson Akilu, another spray painter, who works in the same workshop with the deceased, Aina, whom he called Baba, left home that fateful day for Ibafo and would from there go to Ijede in Ikorodu to see his family. "Baba left home that day, promising to return before sunset. He had a room in the workshop where he lived, but went to Ikorodu at week ends to see his family. In the night, when we could not see him return, we tried his cell phone; at first, a lady picked it. After sometime, when we tried again, it was switched off," Akilu said.

The young man explained that the following morning, they involved the leaders of the Nigerian Automobile Technical Association (NATA), Ilasamaja Branch and a search party was set up. After several efforts, they received a call around 6p.m. from Ikorodu that his body was discovered at Ota-Ona Street, Ikorodu.

"In the evening, we received a call from one of NATA leaders in Ikorodu that they have found baba's body. We immediately rushed down to Ikorodu, and we found his body at Ota-Ona Street, around Ikorodu Post Office. We later took him to the mortuary at the General Hospital, Ikorodu," he added.

Akilu added that some of the people they met told them that they found him seated in front of one of the houses on the street around 5a.m.

"At Ota-Ona Street near post office at Ikorodu, we were told that they found



•Late Aina

him seated in front of a house on the same street looking tired. People passing offered to help, but he refused to talk to anyone.

The residents quickly reported at the nearest police station, but the police did not respond immediately. According to what we were told, if the police had

responded, he would not have died, because he would have been taken to the hospital for treatment," he added.

A witness said that Aina had left Ibafo that day and was on his way to Ijede but was unlucky to have boarded a bus used by transit robbers, popularly called one-chance. It was revealed that the money

Aina was having was over a N100, 000 and the robbers had beaten him severely when he refused to let go.

Aina was buried on Thursday, the following day at Ijebu Isiwo, his home town in Ogun State.

As a mark of respect, activities at the Mechanic Village were paralysed for two days. The village was calm and the workers were in a sad mood when our correspondent visited. The main gate leading to it was closed and each block's gate was half open. Most of the people interviewed expressed shock over the incident. Rabbecca Olowookere, a petty trader close to the village described the character of Aina. "Ah! ah! I still saw him in the morning of that day. He greeted me and went to his workshop. This is strange. Baba Sunday was a nice and easy going man. He was kind to all, gentle and easy going. Only God knows why good people die early," she said.

Wunmi Osipeju, who lives around the area expressed shock at the death of Aina. She narrated her ordeal in the hand of the one-chance robbers when he boarded their bus at Ojota. "The activities of these people are becoming worrisome. The last time I travelled to Ekiti, I was returning in the night around 8p.m. At Ojota, I entered a bus unknown to me that it belonged to them. They collected all my money and dropped me with three others at Onipanu instead of Oshodi. Government really has to do something; we can't continue like this," she said.

Pius Iyangbe, who lives at Olowo-okere Street wanted government to unravel the killer of Aina. "I don't know what our security men are doing. About two weeks ago, same high way robbers nearly killed a man at Anthony Bus Stop when he was pushed down on motion.

Government has to do something to ensure safety of lives and property. And on this particular one, the killer must be brought to book; they must not escape judgment," he said passionately.

Sunday Aina, the first born of the deceased could not talk much when we tried to interview him. He only said: "We hand over every thing to God. Let Him judge."