

Reps Member Assassinated

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Another tragedy befell the Oyo State wing of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) on Friday evening as its member representing the Lagelu Akinyele Constituency in the House of Representatives, Segun Oladimeji, was assassinated by yet to be identified gunmen.

- *Killing, A Dastardly Act, Says Etteh*
- *Alao-Akala Pledges N10m For Information*
- *We'll Help Police Find Killers - Adedibu*

Some of his aides with him at the time of the incident also sustained gunshot injuries and have been admitted at the University College Hospital (UCH), Ibadan.

Oladimeji, owner of the

popular Segelu Hotel in Ibadan, was said to be in a beer parlour in his Ejioku community when his assailants invited him out and shot him.

His first son, Lekan Oladimeji, who was with him

when the incident occurred, told newsmen that the two men who assassinated the late politician came in an Honda Accord car.

Lekan, who is the Supervisory Councillor for Education in Lagelu Local Government

Council, recalled that the late lawmaker had returned from a funeral ceremony before going to the joint in the community to relax.

"We were there when some people came and asked who was Segelu. He identified himself and told them he was the one they were looking for, thinking they were members of his constituency who came for assistance.

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"The people said they wanted to see him and he excused himself and went out with them. The next thing we heard was a gunshot," he said.

Lekan added that his father's assassination might not be unconnected with intra-party problem, as the late legislator's closeness to the strongman of Ibadan politics, Chief Lamidi Adedibu, in recent times has created more political enemies for him.

The state governor, Bayo Alao-Akala, has pledged a N10million reward for anybody who volunteers information to track down the assassins.

He, however, accused political opponents for the dastardly act.

Alao-Akala spoke when he went to commiserate with the Oladimeji family at their New Ibe Road, Ibadan residence,

accompanied by Adedibu, the deputy governor, Taofeek Arapaja, the Senate Leader, Teslim Folarin, and some PDP stalwarts.

Said the governor: "It is a leadership tussle. They killed him because the man was a person nobody can take Lagelu from. They knew that he had become more popular among his people in Lagelu local government area. He had taken over the leadership of the area.

"He was popular among his people, and that is the reason he was at the House of Representatives. That is the reason he was at Ejioku, where he was assassinated. He died among his people.

"I have spoken with the Commissioner of Police and he said they have made some arrests. We must unravel the killers. They are not armed robbers; they are hired

assassins. We will tell our people to help the police.

"We are begging anybody with useful information that can lead to the arrest of the killers to furnish the police with such information. We are ready to give out N10million for such information."

Adedibu also expressed shock even as he linked the killing to political and leadership tussle, adding that they were ready to help the police to unravel the killers.

His words: "We will help the police to unravel the killers and God will help us. He called me when he wanted to leave Abuja that he was coming to the tribunal because he cared so much about law."

Speaker of the House of Representatives, Patricia

Etteh, described the killing as a dastardly act.

She said the deceased was a resourceful and amiable member, who will be greatly missed on the floor of the House.

She prayed the Almighty God to grant his family and associates the fortitude to bear the loss.

His three wives - Janet, Adenike, and Bimpe - were all forlorn and speechless when Sunday Independent visited the late lawmaker's home.

The state police command, however, said seven people were assisting them in the investigation into the murder.

The Police Public Relation Officer (PPRO), Mrs Olabisi Okuwobi, confirmed that one suspect has been arrested in connection with the gruesome murder and promised that they will get the culprits.