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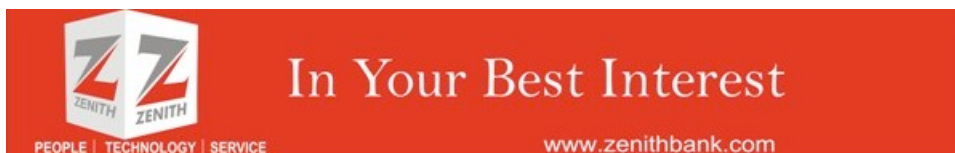


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Obasanjo in public court

Weather in Abuja, Nigeria

Current Conditions:



32°C

Mostly Cloudy

Wind: WSW 6 mph



LAST UPDATED AT Mon Aug, 09 2010

Print Email

House of Reps aspirant shot dead in Benin

•Obasanjo denies death rumour •Says he is hale and hearty

By Francis Onoiribhola (Benin) and Segun Adeleye (Abeokuta)



President Goodluck Jonathan (right); Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) National Chairman, Okwesilieze Nwodo; Identification Solutions software engineer, Olugbenga Timothy; and PDP National Organising Secretary, Uche Secondus; during Jonathan's on-line registration for the party in the Villa in Abuja ... on Monday.

In Abeokuta, former President Olusegun Obasanjo, 73, moved quickly on Monday to announce that he is still alive and well, on the back of the death in Benin of Oghogho Omorogbe, 34, a House of Representatives aspirant murdered at the weekend.

Five gunmen shot Omorogbe dead in his residence in Ugbor four days after he launched his campaign.

The incident has shattered the peace and tranquility in the political firmament of Edo State.

Omorogbe, who studied engineering at the University of Benin (UNIBEN), told journalists in Benin last Tuesday of his desire to contest on the platform of the Action Congress (AC).

He held a rally in Umagbai on the Benin-Ehor Road on Saturday where he formally declared his ambition.

Moments after he returned home, apparently trailed from the rally, the gunmen murdered him at about 8.30 p.m, despite pleas from his wife and brother for them to spare his life.

They shot him several times at close range.

Omorogbe was taken to hospital where he was confirmed dead.

Police Public Relations Officer, Peter Ogboi, confirmed the incident but said he did not have the details.

Omorogbe declared to journalists on Tuesday that he was offering himself and his conscience to serve the people of Uhumwode and Orhionmwon Federal Constituency, describing it as a divine calling he could not ignore.

He knocked past and present representatives of the constituency who he said gave "unfulfilled promises."

Omorogbe was until his death a member of the board of Edo Broadcasting

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Last Update: 10:44:44 AM

Abuja

Cartoon for the day



Opinion Poll

Is the recent slashed N6.39b budget for Nigeria @ 50 adequate?

- ☐ Not adequate, add to it.
- ☐ Yes, it is adequate.
- ☐ No, further reduce it.

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Service inaugurated last week by Governor Adams Oshiomhole.

He left behind his wife and their one-month-old baby.

To quash the rumour of his own death on Monday, which sent shivers down the spines of many, especially the South West, Obasanjo reacted in a telephone interview, saying first in Yoruba: “*Nkankan o semi, kokoko lara mile bi ibon; ab’oo wa bami memu.*”

Translated into English, it means: “I’m hale and hearty; nothing untoward has happened to me; will you come over and have a mug of palm wine with me.”

He then switched into English, adding: “I think you can recognise my voice, I am at Agbeloba, in Abeokuta here, I have heard the rumour too.

“Thank you for taking the trouble to find out. I understand that some of you have called Alhaji (his chief detail).”

Obasanjo, a retired General aged 73, prides himself on good health, boosted by regular exercise.

“*I dey kampe,*” (I am as fit as a fiddle) was his refrain whenever anyone asked if he was healthy enough when he was in Aso Rock.

He had given out one of his daughters in marriage on Saturday, 24 hours before the rumour spread like harmattan fire.

Lekan Togunwa, a lecturer at the Moshood Abiola Polytechnic, Abeokuta, a native of Abeokuta North Council like Obasanjo, was among those who called *Daily Independent* to enquire about his death.

“What did you hear of Obasanjo, have you heard the rumour?” he asked.

The old man is fine, Togunwa was told.



Views:2190

Article Comments

(5 comments)

On Tue Aug, 10 2010 05:20 by s.akpabio

it is just the beginning, God is in control. Those politicians who have not soiled their hands in blood will definitely not be harm. It is God words. A violent man will die violently irrespective how long it may take

On Tue Aug, 10 2010 04:59 by GABRIEL

Who want OBJ dead? I know they are unscrupulous Nigerians who always wish their fellow human being dead. Let me tell you one thing,those who wish others evil,evil will always fall on them...thats the basic truth. Long live OBJ

On Tue Aug, 10 2010 04:23 by dupe from france

why some people whats somebody like papa obasanjo ot die se nitori ohun so otito because he always talk true long live sir

On Tue Aug, 10 2010 04:04 by Asuquo

This is a very terrible and sad incident. I condemn political violents in all its ramification. The FG, Edo State Govt and security agencies should wake up and be alive to their responsibilities and tackle this very serious security situation and assasination of political opponents. This is not good for political environments for credible candidates and God fearing people to come and contest. It is a pity. My sympathy and condolence goes to the wife and entire family of the decease. May his soul rest in peace. May God save and bless Nigeria.

On Mon Aug, 09 2010 10:21 by Adesina

Why are Nigerians always want their kindred to die? Will the death of Obasanjo or any other person solve Nigeria's problems or bring riches to the enemies? It is time we realise that everybody will die and give account of stewardship. I dont wish Obasanjo untimely death, because I never wish myself the same.

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