

News

Ijoko stool: Police slam murder charge on Ogun chiefs

By Tunde Opeseitan

Reporter, Lagos

POLICE authorities have dragged 13 people including three chiefs in Ogun State before an Abeokuta High Court over alleged involvement in the mayhem that led to the death of three traditional chiefs from Ijoko area of the state.

According to the three-count charge, the accused were said to have attacked the traditional ruler of Ijoko, Oba Lasisis Kolapo Ogunseye and his entourage on April 27, shortly after the hearing of a suit on the dispute over Ijoko stool.

The accused, Simon Kehinde Williams, Abidemi Jimoh and Fatai Alani Matanmi were said to have led others who are now at large to attack the monarch.

Matanmi had filed a suit at the High Court of Otta to challenge the appointment and installation of Ogunseye as the traditional ruler of Ijoko by the Olowu of Owu Kingdom.

Ogunseye was installed as Ijoko monarch on March 31, 2006.

Others accused persons are Rasaki Tijani, Lukman Matanmi, Monsuru Matanmi, Gafari Shorunke, Kayode Matanmi, Kamoru Akindele, Kunle Matanmi, Amogbon Busuyi Femi, Semiu Taiwo and Semiu Gbadamosi (all now at large).

Those who lost their lives in the melee, according to the charge sheet, included Akibu Amodu, Festus Sotinoye and Akeem Sanusi.

In count one, the accused were said to have "on April 27, 2010 at about 1pm, at Oju-Ore area of Sango Otta, Ogun State, conspired to attack Oba Ogunseye and others including his lawyer, Tunji Ayanlaja (SAN).

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