

News

Two SARS men, kidnap suspect die in auto crash

By Yemi Akintomide (Akure)
and Gbenga Faturoti (Osogbo)

TWO operatives of Special Anti Robbery Squad (SARS) of Ondo State Police Command and a kidnap suspect were on Tuesday, killed in an auto crash along Benin-Ore-Lagos express road.

Also, no fewer than two persons were on Wednesday killed, while five others were injured in a multiple bank robbery, which occurred in Ikurin in Ifelodun local government of Osun State.

The Ondo lone accident

• Two killed, six injured in bank robbery

was said to have occurred around 10am on Tuesday, when the two operatives of SARS had succeeded in arresting a kingpin of a kidnap gang operating in some parts of the state.

It was gathered that the late officers were sent from the state SARS to effect the arrest of the kidnapers' kingpin in a village around Ore-Area 4 axis.

The late suspect it was gath-

ered, was the ring leader of a 15-man gang of kidnapers, who abducted Diran Olanusi, younger brother of the deputy governor of Ondo State, Ali Olanusi, last week.

The police, had last week Thursday, arrested and paraded four members of the 15-man kidnap gang that participated in the foiled kidnap attempt of the state deputy governor's younger brother.

The police said that its oper-

atives were on the trail of the leader of the gang which the Police commissioner, Danladi Mashebiwala said would be arrested in a matter of days.

Daily Independent gathered that one of the operatives, who drove the operational car, was on top speed when one of the front tyres of the vehicle burst and the bus skipped off the road and somersaulted several times before crashing into a tick busy.

Aliyu flays people celebrating Yakowa's death

By Chinwendu Nnadozie
Snr Correspondent, Minna

CHAIRMAN, Northern States Governors' Forum (NSGF) and Niger State governor, Mu'azu Bahangida Aliyu, has expressed disgust at the attitude of some Nigerians who celebrate deaths of leaders.

Aliyu, speaking when he played host to members of Niger State House of Assembly, who paid him condolence visit, said it is unfortunate that some Nigerians make caricature of celebrating calamities that befall prominent Nigerians publicly and on the social media.

This development, he said, only showed how wicked man can be to a fellow human.

Apparently reacting to the death of late Governor Patrick Ibrahim Yakowa, said to have elicited jubilation in Northern part of Kaduna State, while the southern part joined host of other Nigerians in mourning, Aliyu reminded people with such tendencies that every living soul must die one day.

The swearing-in of former Deputy Governor Mukhtar Yero, as governor of Kaduna State following Yakowa's death in the ill-fated copter crash last Saturday, is said to have elicited more jubilation than mourning among a section of the people.

Aliyu described the development as not only unreligious, but a betrayal of the tenets of whatever religion those behind the publications profess.

He stressed: "The inhumanity that is creeping into the fabrics of many Nigerians through social media is becoming unfortunate".

Babalakin relists suit against EFCC over planned arraignment

By Tunde Opesetan
Snr Reporter, Lagos

EXACTLY five days after a Federal High Court in Lagos struck out his suit against the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), Chairman of Bi-Courtney Group, Wale Babalakin, has relisted the suit with minor adjustments.

Babalakin had filed the former suit challenging the legality of the criminal charge filed against him by the anti-graft agency before the Lagos High Court, Ikeja.

Babalakin, a Senior Advocate of Nigeria (SAN), had argued that EFCC lacked the power to prefer the charge against him at the Lagos court, without the fiat of Lagos State Attorney General.

But, Justice Mohammed Id-ris struck out the suit Babalakin



Former Delta State Governor, Felix Ibru (left), Executive Director, Obafemi Awolowo Foundation, Olatkunbo Dosumu-Awolowo (middle), and Chairman, Selection Committee, Awolowo Prize for Obafemi Leadership Award, Emeka Anyaoku, during a press briefing in Lagos on Wednesday.

Photo: Sunday Olaniyan

CNPP threatens mass protest over Chime

By Emmanuel Nzomiwu
Correspondent, Enugu

CONFERENCE of Nigerian Political Parties (CNPP) has threatened to embark on mass protest if the people of Enugu State are not told the whereabouts of their governor, Sullivan Chime.

CNPP Secretary General, Willy Ezugwu, who issued

the threat in an interview with journalists in Enugu, explained that "Chime is the property of the people of the state and they deserve to know his whereabouts".

Ezugwu compared the events in Enugu during the past three months of Chime's absence to what happened in the days of late President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua's

sickness, saying that "while we claim to be practicing democracy in Nigeria, we are in reality practicing satanic democracy".

He noted that every living human being could be sick, but not when such a person was running public affairs, and when the constitution says that after a certain period, you are not in your office,

the next person, being your Deputy should take over the affairs of the government.

"But you find a situation where people are lying. What stops people from coming up to say somebody is sick.

"There is no person that cannot be sick. I can be sick, the President can be sick, the Senate President can be sick. The Speaker can be sick.

Security men beat up ex-LG chiefs over allowance at Ajimobi's office