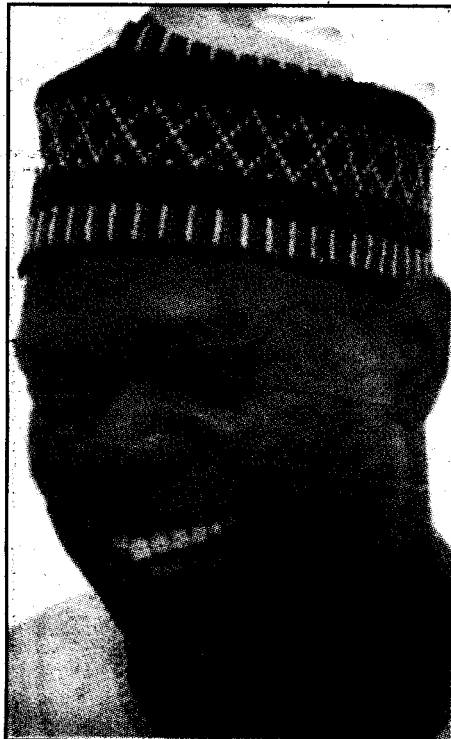


Crisis in Akure community deepens

- Majority leader killed
- Council chairman on the run



• Late Ogunleye



• Fagoriola

IJU, the headquarters of the crisis-ridden Akure North local government area of Ondo state was yesterday thrown into confusion following the assassination of the council's majority leader, Mr. Emmanuel Ogunleye by hoodlums suspected to be supporters of the council's Chairman Mr. Dele Fagoriola.

The area had been embroiled in deep crisis over political rivalry between Ondo State Commissioner for Finance, Chief Tayo Alasoadura and the chairman of the local government, Fagoriola, who are both indigenes of the community.

About a week ago, there was a bloody clash between supporters of the two political leaders following the victory of Prince Aderin Adesida at the House of Representa-

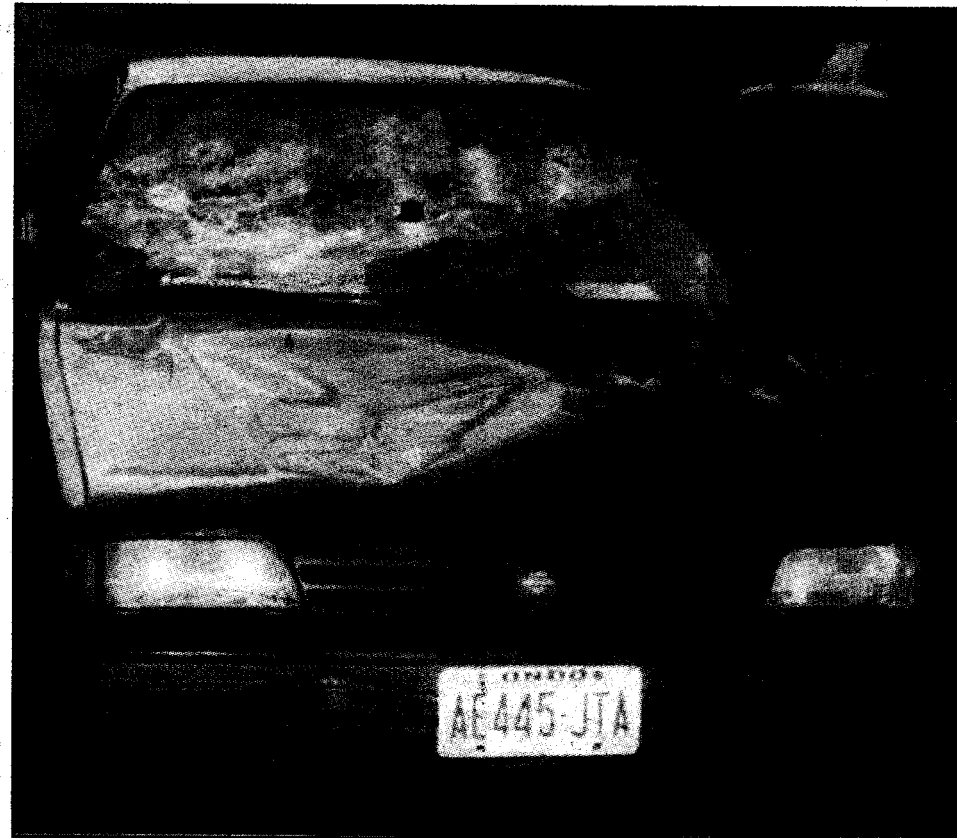
• **Damisi OJO** ■
Akure

tives primaries for Akure North/South federal constituency.

Fagoriola, also an aspirant was injured while another 75-year old woman is now on danger list at the University College Hospital, Ibadan due to injuries sustained during the fracas.

The Nation gathered that Ogunleye was hacked to death around 7p.m on Thursday.

According to the father of the deceased, Mr. Oguntuase Ogunleye, about 10 suspected assassins arrived his home with dangerous weapons and surrounded it (the house). Pa Ogunleye, who was still in grief said three of the suspects attacked his son with heavy planks. "He was pleading with



• Vandalised: Car belonging to Hon Isaac Olubi, Special Adviser on Special Duties in the Local Government

them to spare his life but they did not heed his appeal, rather one of them slapped his face". He lamented that all efforts to get help from his neighbours were fruitless as about seven of the attackers had surrounded the house with guns and other dangerous weapons which scared people in the vicinity. "When they found out that he would not survive the attack, they left him in his pool of blood and ran away", the sad father recalled.

"A few minutes before the incident, we saw two buses that dropped the assailants in front of the house, one of the buses was driven by Mrs. Adeola Fagoriola, wife of the local government boss, while the Council Vice Chairman, Mr. Akin Adeluyi was also one of the occupants in the bus.

The septuagenarian revealed that he saw one Yoyo Farukanmi, Ajayi Farukanmi and Omolayo Tehinse beating his late son to death, while Deji Tehinse, Olomi Fagboyegun, Tunde Omoopone, Ogbejo and Otise surrounded the house with weapons. The Nation gathered that the town's monarch, the Okiti of Iju, Oba Moses Farukanmi has been detained while the Council chairman, Fagoriola and his wife who are now on the run have been declared wanted by the police.

The State Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Adeniran Aremu (ASP) said the State Police commissioner, Mr. Innocent Ilozuoke had accompanied Chief Alasoadura to the crisis-ridden town for on the spot assessment of the development.