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# Students protest killing of colleague in Ilorin

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STUDENTS of the Kwara State Polytechnic, Ilorin, Tuesday protested the killing of their colleague by a police van.

The deceased, Adebayo Babatunde, was killed on Monday evening by a police van with registration number PF797HQ around Post Office in Ilorin.

It was learnt the driver was attached to a retired police officer in Ilorin.

Sources said the deceased was crossing the road when the incident occurred.

He was a Higher National Diploma (HND) II student of Business Administration.

The students went on the rampage, blocking and setting up bonfires on the old Jebba road.

A police station opposite the school gate was said to have been razed.

An eyewitness said the students went to the state government-owned Radio Kwara Midland FM and Television stations, and beat up staff.

A staff said: “They forcibly entered our premises and beat us up. They said we should allow them access to our studio. They went away with one of our vans. Some staff escaped by jumping over the fence.”

Spokesperson of the polytechnic Mallam Abdukadir Yinus confirmed the incident. Yinus said: “Management has set today aside as a lecture free day to mourn the deceased.

“The incident caused his fellow students to stage a peaceful demonstration on the highway. The management has reported the incident to security agencies.

“We urge the Police Command to bring the culprit to book.”

Public Relations Officer (PRO) of the Student Union Government (SUG) Temitope Kareem denied allegations that the students burnt a police station.

She said: “Our demonstration against police brutality was peaceful, but policemen threw tear gas canisters at us, leaving many students gasping for breath.”

The PRO said the students impounded the police van that killed their colleague but the driver escaped.

Police Spokesman Dabo Ezekiel said the victim was receiving a phone call when he was knocked down.



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