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Alleged murder: Senate Leader lands in prison

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Oseheye Okwuofu, Ibadan



Folarin peeping from the Black Maria on his way to Agodi prison in Ibadan ... Tuesday

SENATE Leader Teslim Folarin was whisked to the Agodi Prisons in Ibadan Tuesday. He was ordered remanded by Chief Magistrate Fatima Baderu.

05/01/2011 00:20:00

Folarin was arraigned on a two-count charge of conspiracy and murder of the former factional leader of the National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW), Alhaji Lateef Salako (a.k.a Eleweomo).

The late Salako, a staunch supporter of Governor Adebayo Alao-Akala, was murdered during the PDP local government congress in Ona Ara Local Government on December 31, last year.

Folarin's journey to custody started on Monday when he went to the Police Headquarters at Eleyele to honour the invitation of Police Commissioner Adisa Bola Bolanta as part of investigations into the late Salako's murder.

The Senate Leader was taken to the State Criminal Investigations Department (SCID) office at Iyaganku after preliminary talks with Bolanta and his men at the CP's office.

Folarin was accompanied by leaders of the anti-Akala Coalition of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), led by Senator Lekan Balogun.

They stayed back with Folarin at the office of Assistant Commissioner of Police (SCID) Mrs Mary Egbeyemi where they passed the night. They were also in court with him yesterday.

As Folarin was being led away, PDP chieftain and one-time governorship aspirant Chief Yekini Adeojo and others wept.

The court premises was throbbing with hundreds of Supporters. Among them was House of Representatives Committee Chairman on Appropriation Ayo Adeseun and former Minister of Power Elder Wole Oyelese.

No fewer than 50 policemen and State Security Service (SSS) personnel were drafted to the court premises to forestall a breakdown of law and order.

The Senate Leader's army of supporters seized took to the adjoining streets, singing anti- Alao-Akala songs as they protested Folarin's arraignment. The road leading to NTC and Seventh Day Adventist Church was rendered impassable to motorists, blocked by the protesters.

Folarin was arraigned along with three other persons: Ramoni Jaiyeola Bankole, Olaide Raji and Ismaila. They were brought to the court around 10.45 am in Folarin's Peugeot 406 saloon car, amid tight security.

The security agents had a hectic time controlling the human and vehicular traffic.

Immediately Chief Magistrate Fatima Baderu saw the lawyers and their clients, she adjourned the case before her. She returned seven minutes later to take the case preferred against Folarin and the others.

Immediate past President of Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) Mr. Rotimi Akeredolu and 14 other lawyers appeared for Folarin.

Akeredolu said the court lacks the jurisdiction to hear the case. He said the charge preferred against the accused persons "is not within the jurisdiction of your court".

According to him, the only charge that can be taken before the court can at best be for a holden charge and not murder.

He pleaded that his clients be remanded in prison custody pending the transfer of the case to the High Court.

After the charge was read, no plea was taken as directed by the Chief Magistrate, who adjourned the case till January 14.

The Senate Leader was taken away around noon in a Hilux/van belonging to the Prison authorities.

His supporters were in tears.

Akeredolu told reporters after the court session that there was no way he could have stopped Folarin's appearance at the Chief Magistrate's Court.

"We do not want any uproar and argument now; that was why we agreed that he should be brought to the Magistrate's Court."

Akeredolu said he would approach the High Court to secure bail for Folarin and the others.

Balogun blamed Folarin for reporting to the Police Headquarters on Monday – a public holiday.

He insisted that the Commissioner of Police should be transferred, claiming that he "is a strong supporter of Governor Alao-Akala".

Balogun said the anti-Akala coalition would hold a rally on January 15 to push for the removal of the Commissioner of Police.

Comments (31 posted):

OLATONA COLIN on 05/01/2011 00:49:23



ALAO AKALA AND BABA ADISA BOLANTA SHOULD LEARN FROM THE FALL OF HITLER DOWN TO IDI-AMIN, DOWN TO ABACHA DOWN TO ERU-OBODO DOWN TO ELEWEOMO AND FINALLY SOONEST MUKAILA LAMIDI AKA AUXILIARY.





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OLATONA COLIN on 05/01/2011 00:50:22



HONESTLY, ALAO AKALA AND BABA ADISA BOLANTA SHOULD BE TIED TO THE STAKE AND SHOT THIS YEAR 2011.





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OLATONA COLIN on 05/01/2011 00:51:54



FINALLY THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE SEEMS TO TURN A BLIND EYE TO THE EVENTS IN OYO STATE BY NOT REMOVING BOLANTA. HIS JOB WILL BE COMSUMED BY THE STATE OF EMERGENCY THAT WILL BE DECLARED SOON BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.





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lyon on 05/01/2011 00:57:32



Akala is not helping himself. I cannot figure it out how he is going to go about it. I hope he and his backer, obasanjo, will take some time out to reflect on Abacha's life. Their own end will surely be bloodier than that of Abacha. Is it by force that you rule? If Obasanjo and Akala believe there is going to be ample chance to rig election the way they did the last time, they are only inviting chaos. I see this republic collapsing in the hands obasanjo if nothing is done to check this animal called obasanjo. Folarin people are solidly behind you.





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amby on 05/01/2011 00:58:29



Na wa o, Akalalism, you have vowed to deak with all opposition to get to gov house second time, I hope our democrasy will last for our unborn child, because everything is pointing towards FELLOW NIGERIANS, PLS LET US CONSIDER people that are not able to afford 2meals per day





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teslim on 05/01/2011 01:05:59



ITHINK WE SHOULD STOP POLITICS OF BITTERNESS IN OUR COUNTRY IF WE REALY WANT TO MOVE OUR COUNTRY FORWARD. A SENATE LEADER WHO WAS NOT SEEN WITH A GUN OR KNIFE AT THE SCENE OF THE CRIME IS NOW IN PRISON. BUT ITS NOT A NEW THING IN OUR COUNTRY THEY DID IT FOR OBAFEMI AWOLOWO.





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flexi on 05/01/2011 01:07:46



this is a conspiracy. i like the way teslim is handling this... wait till everything settles.. then we will know the real perpetrators





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Arinze on 05/01/2011 01:48:58



THE POLICE IS DOING HIS WORK. IF HE DOES NOT EXECUTE THE LAW AS IT IS HIS DUTY, THE SAME PEOPLE HERE WILL BE BLAMING HIM.ONE THING NOWADAYS IS THAT POLITICIANS TRY TO POLITICIZE EVERYTHING EVEN WHEN THEY ARE GUILTY. WHY SHOULDN'T FOLARIN GO TO PRISON IF HIS SUPPORTERE WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MURDER OF SALAKO? THE FACT IS THAT SOMEBODY, WHERE PDP OR ACN, OR CPC HAS BEEN MURDERED. DEAHT CASE KNOWS NO PARTY MEMEBER. SO THE LAW HAS TO BE FOLLOWED. AND THIS WILL ALSO HELP TO CHECKMATE SIMILAR ACTIVITIES OF SOME POLITICIANS IN VIEW OF THE ELECTIONS THIS YEAR. FOLARIN, CANNOT SAY THAT HE DOES NOT KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE DEATH OF HIS SALAKO. NOW THE COMMISSIONER IS DOING HIS WORK, ILLITERATES, BLINDED

FOLDED BY POLITICAL PARTY, INSENSITIVE OF THE HUMAN LIFE THAT WAS LOSE, ARE CLAMOURING FOR THE REMOVAL OF THE POLICE COMMISIONER. TODAY IT IS SALAKO, TOMORROW, IT WILL BE ANY OF YOUR RELATIONS. AND WE WILL SEE WHAT WILL BE YOUR REACTION.



Adegboyega on 05/01/2011 01:52:13



Let him go like that and never return, there should be no room for murderer and terror.





BISHOP TOM on 05/01/2011 02:15:08



WHO KILLED BOLA IGE? THIS JUSTICE SEEMS TOO SPEEDY.





HORLAR on 05/01/2011 02:21:43



AKALA, FOLARIN, OYO STATE COMMISIONER OF POLICE ARE ALL AREA BOYS...HOW WILL PEACE BE IN OYO STATE, IBADAN PEOPLE ARE SO STUPID THAT EACH ELECTION THEY ALWAYS LOOSE THEIR HEAD & SELL THEIR BIRTH RIGHT & THAT IS WHY YEAR BY YEAR THEY KEEP HAVING BAD LEADERS..WHAT WAS ELEWE OMO PROFESSION? WHAT WAS HE DOING @THE MEETING? HIS ELEWE OMO ADELEGATE, SENATOR, LAW MAKER? IBADAN HAS LOST HIS GLORY SINCE ADEDIBU TOOK OWNERSHIP OF THAT STATE & OYO STAE PEOLE ARE IN BUNDAGE IN THE HANDS OF ANOTHER DEDIBUUUUUU.





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adewale adeogun on 05/01/2011 03:21:28



bye bye oooo





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chudi on 05/01/2011 04:04:27



what a cheering news....





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Rey patricks on 05/01/2011 04:32:30



I smell a conspiracy. That's all that exists in the Nigerian political system. Are the police mystified or just taking orders? I wonder.





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BAMDEL on 05/01/2011 05:00:50



PDP as a Political Party has failed Nigerians. The biggest of it all is the show of shame & madness in the highest order in Ibadan, the "PACE SETTER" capital city. What a shame! Shame to all of them. ACN should please resue Oyo State from these animals that called themselves Politicians.





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nelson abali, abuja, 08062703487 on 05/01/2011 05:45:27



i hail senate leader folarin for submitting himself for justice. he who alleges must prove.





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Omo on 05/01/2011 05:52:06



Folarin's end is fast approaching. A murder case in enemy's den? It will take God to secure his release.







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| AJISEKOLA on | 05/01/ | 2011 | 06:14:09 |
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The way Bola Ige was murdered and his murderer was released, that's the way the murderer of Eleweomo will be release. They cant find the murderer because they are 'nest of murderers' themselves





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AJISEKOLA on 05/01/2011 06:16:08



The way Bola Ige was murdered and his murderer was released, that's the way the murderer of Eleweomo will be release. They cant find the murderer because they are 'nest of murderers' themselves



Akin Oladoja on 05/01/2011 06:19:55



Any fortune gotten on a platter of gold is usually not so easy to manage. Does he even deserve where he's in the first place? We now know who the real misfit is. Good riddance to bad rubbish.



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05/01/11 10:21