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31/03/2011 01:20:00

Policemen shot dead two people at a campaign rally by the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in Abia State on Tuesday. One of them died on the spot; while the other died on the way to the hospital.

The rally was held in Ohafia, Ohafia Local Government Area. Governor Theodore Orji went to solicit for votes when fracas ensued in Okon, Ohafia.

During the fracas, the Police fired live bullets at the people.

According to eye witnesses, the rally was at its end when some party supporters who had converged at the venue accosted one of the government officials for settlement and in the bid to stop them from harassing the government official the shooting ensued.

The witness said, “The police men may have misconstrued the surge as violence against the governor and they opened fire on the people killing one man on the spot while several others were injured.”

Reacting, the PDP Chairman in Ohafia Local Government Area, Chief Kingsley Imaga, described the incident as unfortunate.

Spokesman, Geoffrey Ogbonna said that he was not aware of the development.

Orji yesterday said he was relying on the people to win re-election.

In a statement by his Media Adviser, Ben Onyechere, he said it was wrong for his political opponents to blackmail the presidency “because it is not a sin to have a cordial relationship with the president and his wife.”

He said: “Politics in Abia has outgrown the pettiness of planting people to breach protocol in an animalistic manner of booing the governor with all the risk inherent in such foolery.”