

Google+

[Home](#) [About Us](#) [Advert Rates](#) [Archives](#) [Jobs](#) [Videos](#) [Subscribe to Newsletter](#) [Sporting Life Advert Rates](#)


Search...


[NEWS](#) [COLUMNISTS](#) [POLITICS](#) [BUSINESS](#) [EDITORIAL](#) [SPORTS](#) [HEALTH](#) [ENTERTAINMENT](#) [MAGAZINE](#) [EDUCATION](#)

THE LATEST

PDP agent declines signing result sheet

⌚ 2 hours ago

Buhari to address Nigerians at 11am

⌚ 2 hours ago

Photo: Osun celebrates Buhari's victory

⌚ 3 hours ago

Buhari beats Jonathan with 2.571m, emerges President

⌚ 4 hours ago

2015 FIFA U20 World Cup: Moses Simon wants Flying Eagles call up

⌚ 5 hours ago

APC addresses supporters on Buhari's speech

⌚ 6 hours ago

Buhari...the president-elect

⌚ 7 hours ago

I've expanded democratic space, says Jonathan

⌚ 7 hours ago

Jubilation in Ibadan, Lagos, Kano, Minna, Uyo, others

⌚ 7 hours ago

Why Buhari's victory is significant, by IBB

⌚ 7 hours ago

🏠 Home » City Beats » How prince, lawyer, four others died in canoe mishap



How prince, lawyer, four others died in canoe mishap

👤 Posted by: Tajudeen Adebajo 📁 in City Beats ⌚ 8 hours ago

EPE, a coastal community in Lagos, is yet to get over the death of its prince and five others in a canoe mishap last Saturday.

Prince Azeez, son of Olu of Epe Oba Sefiu Adewale, his friend Wale Mogaji. Mogaji's brother Gbolahan, who just returned from London; a lawyer, Muheez Bello, his personal assistant Shamsideen Agoro and son of the canoe owner died when it capsized.

Bello's widow Monsurat, the canoe owner and another of his sons survived.

The late Bello, a lawyer with Chevron was aspiring for Epe Local Government chairmanship under the All Progressives Congress (APC) platform.

They were coming from the riverine area where Mrs Bello went to vote.

An eye witness, Rasheed Bello, said the canoe capsized barely five minutes after it took off.

"We left for the riverine area at 12 noon and we were about leaving when they arrived. He asked us not to leave and wait for him and the person in the boat asked him what he was going to do at the back of the Lagoon, he said he can't leave his wife that she wants to go and vote there. When they were about to board, the first thing they asked for was life jacket and they were told there was no life jacket and he said no problem. We moved and he and his wife began to take pictures including their friends. When we got there, they dropped and we left for elsewhere. That's all I know," he said.

Another eyewitness said they were seen taking pictures before the canoe capsized.

The news of the accident went through Epe like wild fire.

MORE FROM CITY BEATS

- Man arraigned for allegedly defrauding N100m
- Lagos CJ approves Easter vacation for judges
- 'How my colleague escaped death'
- APC holds free medical screening
- Three remanded for hotel manager's death

STAY CONNECTED



FBNC Asset Management

Watch how Ngozi achieved her dream wedding the Money Market Fund

This is how long it takes to open a **GTBank Account!**



[click here to be](#)

**Payments.
Travel.
Entertainment
One App**

Diamond Mobile App





GET EXTRA 10% DISCOUNT OFF ALL DEALS USE PROMO CODE DDGM

MEN'S CASUAL SHIRT | WATSONS

₦4,000
₦3,099

Shop Now >

ARCHIVES

April 2015

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			
« Mar						

PAST ARCHIVES

Archive 1 (2006-2008)

Archive 2 (articles before June 22nd 2010)

Archive 3 (articles before April 16 2011)

Archive 4 (articles between April 2011 and September 20, 2012)

Many, including the royal family, the Mogajis, the Bellos, the canoe owner family and their friends virtually did not believe the report, describing it as "rumour".

"We were waiting for him to come and cast his vote and we started hearing different rumours and nobody knows what exactly was wrong. In fact, I even asked one of my brothers to find out and he couldn't go," Prince Dapo Adewale told The Nation.

The remains of Prince Adewale, a director in the Ministry of Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, were among the first to be brought out.

He was rushed to the hospital.

"... but when we moved near the Lagoon, I saw his (the late Adewale's) T-shirt because he was wearing one red T-shirt and I was like 'Kileleyi ke, kilode meaning what is the meaning of this? What happened?' So, we found him and took him away from there thinking there is still hope. We took him to the hospital. It was there a doctor confirmed him dead," Prince Dapo said.

The late Bello's uncle, Alhaji Adekunle Bello, relived how he heard the news, saying: "As far as I am concerned, it is one of his senior brothers that can answer that because I wasn't there. I went to cast my vote at the Primary Health Care near Oliwo Market. I was at the voter registration centre when my phone rang and my younger brother told me that his (Bello's) canoe has sunk! I asked 'what happened?'. They said 'they cannot even say'. All they said was nine of them entered the boat instead of them to wait because they went with a very big boat but unfortunately, I think they have a lot of programme in Epe that Saturday; so he was planning to return early because only his wife went there to vote; he escorted his wife with others. When he was going, he sat down here and I was asking him 'where are you going?' He said 'Ere Ise.' And that was all."

Alhaji Bello noted that they should have opted for a bigger canoe or boarded it in batches instead of nine of them at once.

"Unfortunately, the canoe cannot contain four people but they want to manage it with the hope that they will get to Epe quick from there. The boat sank because there were heavier men inside the boat," he said.

According to Alhaji Bello, his late nephew was planning a big 38th birthday party for that fateful day.

"He greeted everybody that Saturday, telling them to continue enjoying themselves till he returned because that Saturday was his birthday and he has promised some people that there is going to be a big ceremony to mark the birthday," he said.

"Whenever he comes to Epe, he will come down to my house; take his bath and dress up in my room and go out. It is a great loss not only to both the family and the local government, but the world. He was well known and I wasn't surprise when Ambode (Akinwunmi) and Osinbajo (Prof Yemi) came to pay their condolences.

Prince Dapo, who teaches at the Lagos State University (LASU), described the accident as a "big tragedy".

He said: "It is a serious tragedy because we are not talking about a single individual but six persons. The whole community has been in a devastating mood since Saturday," he said.

According to him, the 48-year-old late Prince Adewale was with him and others on that fateful day, preparing to cast their votes.

"There was a problem with the INEC card reader machine and I took the INEC people to their office and when we came back, we were accredited and other people were doing their accreditation. He came with two of his friends – Gbolahan and Wale Mogaji. When they sorted out the issue, the three of them left in a car. That was all."

He described him as an easy going person and a perfect gentle man.

"We are so close, we went to the same school and I remember we did O' level together, slept in the same room and on the same bed. We have never had one minute quarrel even after graduation, we moved together, rented a flat and lived together before I was giving an official contract and I finally moved out.

"Apart from that, he was a very intelligent man. Whenever there were serious issues, he had a way of handling it even when people take it too serious and he will take it with levity and before you know it, the problem is solved," he said.

The late Bello's political associate, Modupe Bello said she still didn't believe it's real.

"It was very sad. I was called by one of our campaign teams that, did I hear that MB (as Bello was fondly called) went on water and the boat sank? I told her he did not tell me anything and I was confused. I miss him so much and I still don't believe because it looks like a drama till now," she said.

According to her, their last conversation was on Bello's birthday.

"He called on Friday that he wanted to have his birthday on the 28; Election Day and told me to make some enquiry about the things we are going to use for the birthday party," she said.

"He was a very accommodating person; he accommodated both the young and the old," she said.

the **MOST**
POPULAR
NEWS site
in **Nigeria**

Read
news on **Naij.com**

tweet

• Sn

in Share

Pin it