



## Two die in Lagos protest

Posted By: Kunle Akinrinade on: July 21, 2015 In: City Beats No Comments



Two persons were yesterday killed in the Temidire area of Alagbado in Lagos when a peaceful protest turned bloody.

The late Ganiu Adebayo aka Oludegun, described as a youth leader, and the late Tunji Olaniyi (aka Tunji Alaso), described as a land speculator, were attacked by a mob for taking protesters' photograph.

The protest was organised by landlords to protest the forcible invasion of their property and harassment by Olaniyi and his thugs.

The placard-carrying landlords and community leaders trooped out about 1.a.m, chanting solidarity songs to condemn what they called "undue violent attacks" by Olaniyi and his boys.

The protesters urged the Lagos State government and law enforcement agents to save them from the hands of Olaniyi.

Men of Alagbado Police Station, who came in two patrol vans, maintained law and order.

The protest became violent when Olaniyi and some of his boys were sighted in a black space bus taking the protesters photograph.

About 11.05 am, some angry youths, who barricaded Moshalashi and Ibari roads, stopped Olaniyi's vehicle and challenged him for taking photographs during a protest against him.

Our reporter watched as Olaniyi's vehicle was smashed by the mob.

He left and returned with more of his boys.

The late Adebayo was hit during sporadic gunshots by the hoodlums.

The mob was said to have descended on Olaniyi and his men with machete.

He died before he could reach a nearby hospital where he was rushed to.

Speaking with our reporter before the protest turned violent, Baale of Temidire, Chief Nojeem Abioye alleged that Olaniyi and his men had been terrorising house owners.

He said: "Many house owners moved into this community more than 40 years ago without any disturbance until a few years ago when some land speculators decided to make life unbearable for them in their own houses.

"We faulted his claim that he was representing a fictitious Ota community who he claimed are the

original land owners because Ota is in Ogun State while our community is in Alimoso Local Government Area of Lagos State.

"I have told him several times to desist from harassing or attacking innocent landlords in this community but he would not listen to me. Yesterday, he beat up an elderly landlord in this community and the man is now on admission in a hospital. He has annexed so many buildings using his thugs to unleash terror on hapless landlords and residents."

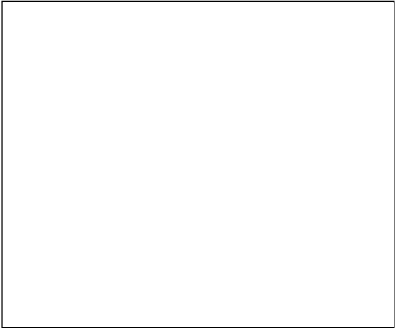
A community leader, Chief Olanrewaju Ololade, said: We are protesting today because we have more than 5,000 people living in this community. Many of us bought our property from Fred Williams family over 40 years ago.

"In 1984, some members of Ibari family in Ota, Ogun State came here to harass us and we took them to court. We got a judgement in 1988, wherein the Ibarri family's claim to our property was overruled by the court. But lately, Olaniyi has been terrorising us claiming to represent an unknown Ota community as land owners. We told him that we have a valid court judgement which validated our ownership of the property but he resorted to violence, beating and harassing landlords and residents. We are, therefore, using this protest to call on Lagos State to save us from the activities of his boys."

Temidire Joint Community Development Association chairman Chief Apanishile Ale said Olaniyi had been using thugs to attack those opposed to his reign of terror. A source, who didn't give his name, told our reporters that Olaniyi's boys were already planning to avenge their boss' death.

Policemen from the Rapid Response Squad (RRS) and Alagbado Division were seen patrolling the community at press time.

Police spokesman Kenneth Nwosu, a deputy superintendent (DSP) said he received a distress call around 11.45 am that one Tunji Rasak 'M', who was attacked and injured during the protest, died in the hospital he was rushed to. He added that another unidentified person was injured and is responding to treatment. Nwosu said investigation was on going.





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