

Kumuekini Community, Chinda.

Ondo community petitions IG over killing, insecurity

SOME concerned indigenes of Irun-Akoko in Akoko North West Local Government Area of Ondo State have petitioned the Inspector-General of Police, Mr. Ibrahim Idris, over the killing and state of insecurity in the town.

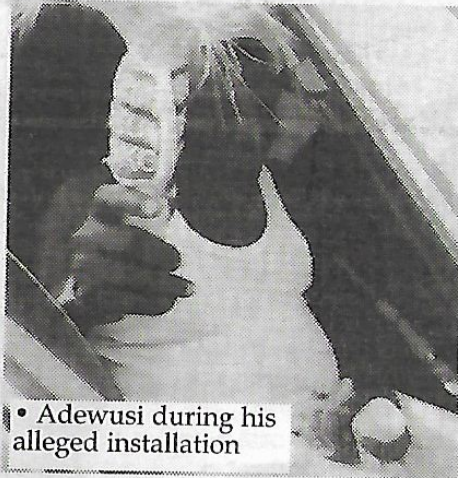
The indigenes, who traced the genesis of the crisis in the community to an alleged installation of a traditional ruler by some group of people, urged the IG to take urgent action to prevent further bloodshed in the town.

The petition, entitled: 'Re: Illegal installation, threat to lives, murder and destruction of properties at Irun Akoko', reads: "Since the death of the last Oba, no new monarch has been enthroned. After the death of the immediate-past monarch, Oba Williams Adewusi, a regent was installed pending when a proposal would be made to install a new king.

"But while his eligibility as a non-indigene was being contested, because there were arguments that he is from Ilasa Ekiti, Mr. Adewusi Bada, aided by some miscreants, installed himself as oba without government's approval and contrary to the chiefs law of Ondo State. Funny enough, Adewusi's father, Mr. Owolabi Bada, who is still alive, was the first generation of his family members to be born in Irun Akoko."

In another petition, entitled, 'Case of conspiracy and murder', the people noted: "The town has known no peace and it has been one trouble after another. It is pertinent to state that a day to the unlawful installation, some miscreants barricaded all the entrances to the town, attacking those they believe will not support their illegal cause, they took hold of the palace, chased away all palace staff and went to the other part of the community, with all manners of arms and ammunition as well as brandishing cutlasses and other dangerous weapons, attacking passersby which led to the untimely death of Mr. Adekiya Apata, who was killed by the hired hoodlums and thugs who used the period to create serious havoc in the community."

"Irun indigenes were never known to be violent. As a matter of fact, we lived in peace and loved one another until the passing on of our late king. But since then the town had been taken over by



• Adewusi during his alleged installation

■ Kunle AKINRINADE ■

some people who were bent on causing crisis.

"As we speak now, nobody can sleep with the two eyes closed. It is surprising that a murder suspect that was arrested and being tried for the murder of a young man was set free. He now goes round the town on a new motorcycle that was purchased for him by his godfathers and threatening to kill more people. That has thrown everybody in the town into fear, as thugs who have taken over the town now go round and threatening to kill more people.

We plead with the Inspector-General of Police to use his good office to intervene and save us from these people who have continued to threaten to kill more people.

"Mr. Adewusi Bada in collaboration with others held the entire community into ransom by raising miscreants to cause havoc and disturb the peace of the town. The miscreants

were led by one Michael, alias flagil.

"However, the greatest shock was the position of the investigating police officer in charge of the homicide who, out of many persons, arrested and charged a single person for conspiracy and murder to the court, while others that are connected with the alleged crime are sighted moving freely and threatening the law-abiding indigenes of the community restating their influence over the police force to make the community ungovernable.

"It is also alarming that despite the receipt of overwhelming evidence on the illegal installation, the Ondo State Police Command failed to charge Mr. Adewusi Bada to court on the excuse that Mr. Adewusi Bada is seriously sick. Ironically, the same Adeusi Bada, who prides himself as a herbalist, continually threatens everybody within the community with his juju power."

Contacted, Bada denied the allegations saying: "It is not true. I did not install myself as an oba and the allegation that somebody was killed at my purported installation is not also true because there was no such installation of me as oba."

When the spokesman of Ondo State Police Command, Mr Ferni Joseph was contacted on the telephone, he promised to revert to our correspondent. He however did not do so at press time.

Nigerian posing as MP, judge, jailed in UK over £10million benefits scam

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needed for two years