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# Boy, 9, petitions EU, ECOWAS over killing

by **Sina Fadare** — February 27, 2019 in [News](#), [News Update](#) 0

A nine-year-old boy, Paul Akinwale, has petitioned the European Union (EU) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), following the death of his parents, sister and a

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relation in a road accident.

Akinwale, through his counsel, Olusina Akeredolu and Adewale Aribatise, alleged that his father, Alex Akinwale, his seven months expectant mother, Rebecca Kehinde Akinwale, his two-year-old sister, Paulina and a teenaged relation, Bose Abiodun, were killed by a vehicle in the convoy of a former deputy governor of Ondo State on February 1, 2014.

He said the driver of the vehicle, while on official duty, recklessly ran into the late Mr. Akinwale's vehicle, killing the occupants, except him (Paul).

Paul said he and his family were returning to Akure from a burial in Ondo town, when the accident occurred on the Ondo-Akure Road, at about 11am.

He said he was five years old at the time and was badly injured, but miraculously survived after treatment.

In the November 19, 2018 petition, Paul spoke through Akeredolu and Aribatise, who are the executive director and director of operations of 'The Detainees & Indigent Help Centre', a non-governmental organisation (NGO).

He said at the time of the incident, his parents were employees of the Nigerian Television Authority (NTA), Akure, Ondo State.

"The family has done every possible thing, including the use of lawyers and the court to get justice for the untimely death of four members of his family and his hospital/ therapy care, but the Ondo State Government is not willing to do anything in form of compensation to the orphaned boy," the petition said.

It called on the international organisations to join forces to demand justice for Paul and mount pressure on the Ondo State Government "so that it will not get away with this impunity, recklessness and lack of conscience against the poor little orphan."

The petition said the incident was the subject matter of a suit marked HID/7/2016 at an Ondo State High Court between Paul Akinwale and three defendants: the deputy governor, the Ondo State Government and the Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice.

But the case was stalled to enable the parties explore an out of court settlement option.



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