

# FUOYE student dies on way to submit assignment



Our Reporter



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Taiwo Gbolahan, a 100-level student at the Federal University of Oye-Ekiti (FUOYE), died on the way to submit his classmates' assignment on the Ikole campus of the institution.

The deceased was the class governor of the Department of Quantity Surveying, Faculty of Environmental Design and Management, Ikole-Ekiti campus of the university.

According to a source, Gbolahan's department was meant to submit their MTH 101 assignment by 8 am on that day or be punished. As the class governor, he had to collate his classmates' assignment papers for submission.

“He boarded a motorcycle to Oye Park in Ikole-Ekiti. He fell while the bike rider was trying to overtake a vehicle.

“After the accident, he was taken to the school clinic, but they did not have the facilities to treat him. Then, he was taken to the hospital in Ido-Ekiti, but couldn’t make it,” the source said.

### **Students react**

Students at the Ikole campus have expressed displeasure with the arrangement which requires them to frequently visit Oye campus for stamping of forms, submission of assignments and freshers’ orientation, among other activities.

Oluwatimileyin Martins, a coursemate of the deceased, said: “Ikole is just like a branch that the management doesn’t consider. We have cases where students are unable to access medical care as the Ikole Medical Centre can only offer paracetamol. The majority of our lecturers are based in Oye. They don’t come regularly. I can’t compare Oye to Ikole. Ikole is not treated fairly at all.”

Adetomiwa Ajayi, a student of Mechatronics, said: “It is sad that a student died in the course of representing his fellow students and his campus; he hasn’t spent three months on campus. Going by what I faced in 100-Level as a student of this very campus, we should have no reason whatsoever to transport ourselves down to Oye for simple issues that can be addressed. “

“Ikole students are marginalised. The level of development in Oye is far above what Ikole is experiencing, except for bringing in two new faculties, even that is another problem because the campus doesn’t have what it takes to occupy large number of students.”

Seyi Ololade, a 400-level student of Mechanical Engineering said: “Death is inevitable. But Gbolahan’s scenario is from a man-made cause. There should be a structure for submission of assignments.

“There should be speed breakers on the route (Ikole-Oye road). There should be a working and sustainable system of transportation on campus. Ikole students are

marginalised.

“The conditions we are facing seem normal but there’s an explosion in the population, the addition of new students. Now, it is abnormal for the management not to improve the Ikole campus. The classes and facilities we have are insufficient, now there are new students who will still share with us.

“Classes are being constructed in Oye, but none in Ikole. Why can’t they provide structures for lecturers in Ikole? The lecturers complain that they teach in Oye and cannot come to Ikole. No supervision from the management. We are not considered in critical decisions. No means of transportation. No good road. No electricity on campus. The marginalisation is even visible for the blind to see! There should be even provision of facilities on the two campuses.”

Daniel Ilesanmi, a student of Mechanical Engineering said: “We were told that the bike man ran away. So he couldn’t get medical assistance for hours while he was bleeding profusely. “Since my 100-Level days, it has been God. But the facilities for us to thrive are not available for us here in Ikole.

“We trek through the campus, as there is no transportation available. The school should help and focus on the Ikole campus too. We need banks and better infrastructure.”

Public Relations Officer of the Student Union Government, Adedokun Abdul-Qayyum Abolore, urged school authorities to fulfill all promises made during the course of the incident.

“What happened to our dear brother, could have been averted if the administrative loopholes had been fixed before.

“As far as I am concerned, I can only speak for the union and not school authorities. The union has never deprived students in Ikole campus of any opportunity given to Oye campus Students. There has been an equal representation but then, I believe we can do better.”