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COMMUNITY NEWS

Community petitions Osun gov over murder of member

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THE people of Okinni in Egbedore Local Government Area of Osun State have petitioned the state governor, Mr Rauf Aregbesola, over the murder of one Paul Ajibola of Akinode's Compound in the community on his farm land.

The community members, in a petition dated June 9, 2014 and addressed to the governor, a copy of which was made available to Community News, protested the way those allegedly connected with the said murder were released by the police and office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Ministry of Justice, Osogbo.

In the petition signed by the head of deceased's family, Pa Stephen Adegoke, Mr Isaac Ajibola, Mr Theophilus Osuolale Adegoke and Mr Azeez Akinola, the petitioners frowned on the development and charged the governor to intervene promptly before it degenerates into an uncontrollable situation.

They said the deceased was a staunch member of the All Progressives Congress (APC) in the community and was murdered on his

farm at Papanla-Elere, Oba Road, Okinni at around 10.00 a.m. on March 24, 2014.

The crux of the matter, according to the complainants, was that Ajibola was in tango with some people in the community over a land, which they both claimed ownership of.

On the ill-fated day, the deceased was said to have gone to the High Court 1, Osogbo in respect of the disputed land case which was adjourned and "when the case had been adjourned, he went back to his home and later his farm land not knowing that his murderers were on his trail to the farm land."

The family members, who reported at the Dada Estate Police Station when they discovered that he had been killed, said the police made arrest of some people who could assist in investigating the murder.

"The police charged those found to be indicted among the arrested ones to the Chief Magistrate's Court, Osogbo for the offence of conspiracy and murder of Paul Ajibola.

"However, to our surprise and dismay, about two weeks after they were charged to court, we learnt that the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Ministry of Justice, Osogbo, had ordered the release of the second and third accused persons from prison custody, despite the fact that there were sufficient evidences to prosecute the accused persons.

"We, therefore, implore your excellency to intervene in the matter and allow the court to try the alleged perpetrators of the dastardly act," the petition said.

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