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CAMPUS BEATS

UI students mourn deceased colleague

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THE atmosphere was sombre at the University of Ibadan (UI) last week as students gathered for a candle night to mourn their colleague, Amos Oreoluwa Olaoluwa, a 26-year-old student from Ogbomoso, Oyo State.

Olaareo, as he was fondly called, until his death, was a 200-Level student of the Department of History, Faculty of Arts, UI. Amos was said to have died on

October 11 as a result of an accident which happened at about 6 a.m. in Abeokuta.

Oreoluwa, who was a military officer, was said to have pleaded with his boss that Sunday morning to put him on duty, although he was not supposed to be on duty. The accident, however, occurred minutes after they left their office for work with four of them said to be in the Toyota Hilux van.

A candle night procession was held for the late Oreoluwa by the faculty members and his friends on Thursday, October 16. The procession started with the Dean of the faculty's speech, while a dirge was later raised and the candle night procession started from the faculty through the halls of residence.

Some of his family members were also present at the procession. His elder sister, Bukola Areo; younger brother, Daniel Areo and uncle, Mr Bayo Adisa, were also present.

The president of the deceased's department, Ayo Adeagbo, said Oreoluwa was a brother and a gentle guy.

"We ate together, washed together and did everything together. He was not only a soldier; he died a soldier.

"He was my alarm throughout last semester and he even shared his salary with us. He loved, hoped and believed so much in Nigeria. There will always be a better Nigeria is what he always said. May his soul rest in perfect peace," he said.

His classmate, Oluwatife Moses, said Oreoluwa was someone who does not look for trouble. "He was my class rep and he never looked for trouble and was so much fun to be with."

"Hardly would you know he was a military man," Odesola Victor, another student, said.

While addressing the students, his uncle, Mr Adisa, said: "We really appreciate you students for what you did. May the Lord honour you too and may such thing never happen to you.

"As I walked around, I heard many people asking what killed him. He returned back to the office on Sunday morning and

voluntarily asked his boss to put him on duty- which the boss did. Four of them left in the vehicle and three died, less than 30 minutes after they left. I believe it is the will of God.”

Candles were dropped at the front of his hall of residence to pay a last respect to him.

By Bukunmi Ajitoni, Elizabeth Obeke and Omole Oyindamola

(UI)

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