Family accuses police of torturing son to death in Ogun

Olayinka Olukoya | Abeokuta

OPERATIVES of the Qgun State police command have been accused of allegedly torturing a 39-year-old motorcycle rider, Abiodun Oladele, to death.

The deceased was said to have been arrested on April 1 by operatives of the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) in connection to a riot against personnel of the Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) at Itori, in Ewekoro Local Government Area of the state.

Oladele, a father of three, was one of the people who were randomly arrested by the police following the riot.

A commercial motorcyclist died when a suspected smuggler being chased by men of the NCS ran him over.

This development led to the protest, as irate youths set properties on fire.

After the police intervened and made some arrests, Oladele was said to have been taken to the custody of SWAT at Magbon, in Abeokuta, alongside 23 others.

His elder brother, Omolekan Olugbenga, informed newsmen that the family had visited Magbon to see Oladele, but were denied access.

Olugbenga said when

they visited the station for the second time on April 7, the SWAT Commander, Kalejaiye Olarewaju, told them that Oladele had died.

"We were shocked by this development, and the next time I went there, the Area Commander inquired from me how many of us came from the family. I told him we were about eight, including a lawyer. He asked me to enter with one or two people.

"When we entered with my elder sister, he [Area Commander] said 'the boy got ill, they took him to the Federal Medical Centre for treatment, but we have lost him."

"Then, he said we should make arrangements on how to conduct an autopsy so that we can take his corpse, but I told him I wouldn't be able to carry the corpse because such a duty was beyond me, as we have other family members at home."

Olugbenga further explained that while Oladele was being held in custody, other suspects who were arrested and held in the same custody were released on bail.

According to him, those arrested with him revealed that Oladele died from pains of torture in police custody.

"We want justice. My brother was not part of those who committed the alleged offence. As a matter of fact, all those arrested, none of them took part in the protest and alleged arson."

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DARE

I, formerly Dare Olanike Sarah now MRS IDOWU SARAH OLANIKE. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

STEPHEN

CONFIRMATION OF NAME: I, Stephen Thaddeus Bayo am the same person bearing Bayo Bege and Stephen Tadius Bayo. Henceforth, I wish to be known and addressed as STEPHEN THADDEUS BAYO. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

ABE

I, formerly Abe Miracle Bolaji now KALEJAIYE MIRACLE BOLAJI. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

FADAISI

I, formerly Miss Fadaisi Sarah Damilola now MRS TITILOYE SARAH DAMILOLA. All former documents remain valid. Nigeria Immigration Service, all banks and general public take note.

AGUNLOYE

ADDITION OF NAME, AND CORRECTION OF DATE OF BIRTH: On my account details, my name was captured as Agunloye Oloruntobi instead of Agunloye Stephen Oloruntobi. Henceforth, I wish to be known and addressed as AGUNLOYE STEPHEN OLORUNTOBI, My correct date of birth is 22nd day of June, 1965. All former documents remain valid. General public take