

② Mob kills okada rider over alleged destruction of campaign billboards in Ibarapa

By Soji Ajibola

A mob over the weekend lynched an okada rider over alleged destruction of political campaign billboards in Igboora, in Ibarapa Central Local Government Area of Oyo State.

The okada rider was identified as Jamiu Sego.

A report had claimed Sego was a member of the Park Management System (PMS) in Igboora, but this was swiftly denied by the organisation.

It was gathered that the

body of Sego, who was the leader of okada riders in the area, was burnt after he was killed by angry youths.

However, the PMS had in a statement by its Public Relations Officer (PRO), Emiola Jelili, described the report that Sego was its member as malicious.

The statement reads: "As regards the news flying around about the death of one Jamiu Sego, who was killed and burnt to death yesterday morning [Saturday] in Igboora, being linked to the Park Management System, it has become nec-

essary for us as an organisation to come out and debunk such reports by unverified news outlets as false and a part of the malicious attempt by agents of darkness to continually smear the image of the body and its leaders.

"We state in clear terms that Jamiu was never a member of PMS and neither did he head any unit in PMS while alive.

"We have already distanced ourselves from the destruction of billboards and defacing of posters of politicians; in fact we al-

ready stated that members of PMS have been charged with the responsibility of protecting every billboard erected in the state as we believe in the principles of democracy and level-playing field.

"Finally, we call on the police and other security operatives to carry out thorough investigation so as to fish out those involved in the killing of the deceased."

Efforts to reach the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Adewale Osifeso, for his comment proved abortive.