

## Suspected assassins kill building materials merchant in Ondo

Hakeem Gbadamosi |  
Akure

GUNMEN suspected to be assassins have killed a popular building materials merchant, identified as Ismaila Awoyinka, in Ore, Odigbo Local Government Area of Ondo State.

The assassins were said to have stationed themselves in a stall very close to the residence of the deceased

at Caring Heart Mega School, Idi Mango area in Ore on Saturday.

They shot the deceased at close range, exposing his intestines, while residents of the area scampered for safety following the shot.

A source explained that the assassins, who monitored the movement of the building materials merchant, waited for him to leave mosque after the Taraweeh prayer.

He said the hoodlums, who were in white attire, waited for Awoyinka for about 15 minutes and after shooting him, waited to confirm him dead before fleeing on a motorcycle.

According to a source, "He [Awoyinka] was assassinated the moment he left the mosque after Taraweeh prayer (a voluntary prayer during Ramadan), very close

to his house, at about 8:35 .m. on the fateful day.

"After he left the mosque, some persons dressed in white attire alighted from a motorcycle and hid nearby.

"As the deceased was about to enter his house they ambushed him and shot him.

"He was shot at close range and his intestines were exposed. He died instantly."

The incident cause panic in

the community.

Meanwhile, while sympathisers have been trooping to the deceased's residence since the news of his death broke.

Speaking with newsmen, the chairman of Odigbo Local Government Area, Honourable Taiwo Adegoroye, who confirmed the development, expressed shock over the assassination of the building materials mer-

chant.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Funmi Odunlami, who also confirmed the incident, said the command had deployed operatives to the community in a bid to unravel those behind the killing.

Odunlami said: "The state police command has deployed detectives from the command to bring the perpetrators to book."