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pdp chieftain killed ekiti 5 students abducted

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PDP chieftain shot dead in Ekiti

SAM OLUWALANA AND OBIORA IFOH

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Another round of political violence erupted in Ekiti State on Wednesday night as the Organizing Secretary of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in Ido – Osi Local Government Area of the state, Hon. Toyin Akinlade was gunned down by unknown assailants. Two persons, who were supporters of the PDP House of Representatives candidate in Ekiti-South Federal Constituency 2,

Hon. Femi Bamisile, had earlier been killed the same day by people dressed in police uniform in Omuo-Ekiti, the headquarters of Ekiti-East Local Government Area of the state.

The victims, who had earlier had a disagreement with their ACN counterparts, were shot by the police while in Bamisile's campaign train on their way to Gbonyin Council Area for the party's campaign rally. The Public Relations Officer of the State Police Command, Mr. Mohammed Jimoh, who confirmed the death of the assassinated **PDP** member, said the police are investigating the matter. Akinlade, a wholesale distributor of beer in Ilogbo community and its suburb was killed at about 12 midnight by two men. It was alleged that the vehicle that conveyed the assailants, was also sighted in Iropora-**Ekiti**, which is about 20 kilometres to Ilogbo, where they were alleged to have shot two members of the party earlier in the evening. The **PDP chieftain** was said to have been tricked out of his house by the men, who posed as customers before he was waylaid and shot.

↓ In a similar circumstance, five students of the School of Health Technology, Ijero-**Ekiti** in Ijero Local Government Area were said to have been seized by people suspected to be kidnappers. The Principal of the institution, Dr. Francis Ibikunle and the Police Public Relations Officer of the State Police Command, Mr Jimoh Mohammed , who also confirmed the abduction, said they have been released. The combined forces of the town's vigilance group, the police and members of the Ijero community effected the release of the students from the kidnappers, who were said to have abducted the students at their hall of residence at Ile Alarofin in the community along Ara Road in Ijero **Ekiti**.

Meanwhile, the state's Nigerian Bar Association (NBA), miffed by Wednesday's killing of two persons during a political violence in Omuo-**Ekiti** in **Ekiti**-East Local Government Area of **Ekiti** State, has described the Nigerian Police Force as a corrupt organization which does not value human lives. Speaking at a press briefing in Ado-**Ekiti**, the Chairman of the Ado- **Ekiti** chapter of the legal body, Mr. Owoseeni Ajayi, said the litany of killings in the state may hinder the conduct of free, fair and credible elections during the April polls, if the police are not alive to their responsibilities of protecting lives and property. The NBA assured the people of the state that it would take all legitimate means to ensure that the matter was not swept under the carpet by compelling the police authorities to investigate the policeman, who shot and killed the two PDP supporters.

Meanwhile, the Commissioner of Police in a statement made available to reporters in Ado **Ekiti**, alleged that the police was aware of the underhand plot being made by some politicians to scare electorate away from voting centres during the forthcoming elections with arms-wielding thugs. The statement, signed on his behalf by the Deputy Commissioner of Police of the Command, Mr Musa Adamu, warned that any politicians apprehended with any form of violence in the state will be dealt with accordingly.

Also, former Governor of the state, Olusegun Oni, erstwhile Minister of Aviation, Mr. Babatunde Omotoba and one-time Deputy-Governor, Chief Mrs. Biodun Olujinmi have also condemned the killings as well as the orgy of violence currently sweeping through the state. While decrying the killings that took place on Wednesday in Omuo- **Ekiti** at a news conference in Abuja, the trio called on all people of good conscience to save the state from the war being waged by the ACN against the innocent people of the state. Oni, who described the happenings in the state as the “most dastardly act of all times”, pointed out that never in the history of the state has such killings and orgy of violence been witnessed as is currently happening. He said: “ACN is waging a war against the people of **Ekiti** State and they are killing the people. It is not once, it is not twice. There is a small version of Libya going on in **Ekiti** State. There is also a small version of Syria going on in **Ekiti** State. We don’t want the whole place to become an orgy of violence”.