Gunmen kill Fashola's aide

Olalekan Adetayo and Kemi Obasola

↑ N aide to the Action Congress governorship aspirant in Lagos State. Mr. Babatunde Fashola (SAN), Mr. Rasheed Alamu, was on Wednesdau night killed by unknown gunmen in Lagos.

It was not clear whether the killing was politically motivated or another case of armed robbery.

Alamu, said to be the Head of the Department of Mobilisation of the Fashola Campaign Organisation, was said to have been driving in a black Honda Civic car belonging to the Director General of the organisation, Mr. Foud Oki, at about 11:20pm.

He was said to be in company with another aide of the AC candidate, named Aiibola Nolla, when gunmen opened fire on them at Bariga area of Lagos.

While Nolla was said to be responding to treatment at an undisclosed hospital in Lagos, Alamu was said to have died immediately after the attack.

Both Alamu and Nolla were said to have left the campaign headquarters of the candidate located at Surulere and were heading home when the attack took place.

Head of Communication of Fashola's campaign group, Mrs. Ranti Adams. who confirmed Alamu's death, described it as shocking.

Spokesman for the Nigerian Police, Lagos State Command, Mr. Bode Ojajuni, said the command was not aware of the incident at about 12.55pm when our correspondent called.

At 4.10pm, Ojajuni re-

stated that no one had made an official report of the incident to the police.

He, however, confirmed that a police patrol team visited the scene of an incident at Bariga on Wednesday night and discovered that the two men in the car said to have been attacked had been taken to a hospital.

Obasanjo can't remove Atiku - Poll respondents

Tunde Oso. Online Correspondent

majority of Nigerian Conline readers, many of them resident abroad, have kicked against the removal of Vice-President Atiku Abubakar by President Olusegun Obasanjo.

They accused Obasanio of breaching the constitution and practising double standards.

In an online opinion forum conducted on the Punch website, respondents asked whether were Abubakar 'should be forced to auit his office for defecting to Action Congress, an opposition party.'

In their comments, many of the respondents called for caution in handling the issue.

They said the Peoples Democratic Party and Obasanjo should follow due process and refrain from using different yardsticks in dealing with the issue of defection by politicians.

Said a respondent from Texas, United States, "When people defect from other parties to the PDP, it is constitutional; but it becomes unconstitutional if the reverse is the case. Atiku was not voted into power by the PDP but by the people of Nigeria. If the VP

must leave by other means than resignation, it must be by the say so of the people's representatives and that is the National Assemblv."

In his comment, another respondent said, "How the present impasse between the President and his vice is resolved will tell much about our collective desire to submit ourselves to the rule of law.

"Why is it that defectors from other parties to PDP were welcomed with so much fanfare, while those from PDP to other parties are accused of anti-party activities and given the boot?"