

Policeman lynched over technician's death

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An angry mob in Alaba, Ojo, Lagos State, on Friday lynched a man believed to be a policeman after he allegedly killed a

s tribute

community. His first son, Obiajulu, described his father as a very loving man who lived a fulfilled life and left a legacy of peace for his children.

The crowd that thronged the ceremony was an indication that the late musician was well loved by his community. Various groups, including the popular Peoples Club, which featured in one of the late musician's tracks, were there to pay their respects to the *Osondi Owendi* crooner.

In a tribute sent to *Saturday Punch* by email on Friday, celebrated author, Prof. Chinua Achebe, described the departed music legend as "an artiste who played music with a message and mission."

customer who had come to buy electronic materials at Alaba International Market.

The incident, which paralysed trading in the market, was said to have occurred around 10am. According to eyewitnesses, the deceased, who was in mobile police uniform, broke the mirror of a Toyota Quest mini van with registration number Lagos KJ 744 AAA over an alleged traffic offence.

One of the persons at the back of the van allegedly gripped the policeman through the window of the vehicle so that he would not run away. In the process, the policeman threatened to shoot the man, which caused a scuffle between them. As the occupant of the mini van reportedly attempted to snatch the policeman's gun, a shot rang out.

The bullet killed the man instantly and injured the

other two people in the vehicle. Angry traders around the area mobilised and lynched the policeman before he could be rescued. The mob then marched to the Ojo police division, threatening to burn it down. But the mob was pacified by some executives of the market who claimed that the policeman was not from the station.

At the Ojo Police Division, an officer, who declined to give his name, said that the policeman was an impostor. He added that his real identity was being investigated. He said that the police had taken the corpse of the victims to the mortuary, while an investigation was being led by the Area Commander of Area E, Mr. Josak Habila.

Our correspondent saw the two other occupants of the vehicle, who were covered in blood as a result of the pellets from the bullet, at the station.