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Wednesday, 23 June 2010  
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## Find the killer of my father, son tells police

By Success Nwogu

Thursday, 17 Jun 2010

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Find the killer of my father, son tells police

The family of a senior driver of Julius Berger Construction Company, Mr. Wahab Amusa, who was allegedly pushed from the Orile-Iganmu interchange flyover on Tuesday by a policeman and died on the spot have said their grief will be assuaged unless the Lagos State Police Command find out the killer of their breadwinner and punish the culprit appropriately.

The deceased eldest son, Ahmed, told PUNCH METRO that eyewitnesses account showed that one of the policemen pushed his father, Wahab, from the 16-metre-high bridge during an argument.

"The police kept the corpse at Isolo Mortuary. A policeman took us there and we were allowed to see it. We have just embalmed him today (Wednesday). The cost of the embalment was borne by Julius Berger. They said the corpse would be released either on Wednesday or Thursday next week," Ahmed said.

He had earlier told PUNCH METRO on Tuesday, "I was not there when it happened. I received a call on Tuesday morning that my father is dead. They said a policeman killed my father. He pushed him from the bridge and he died. Policemen do not treat people well. They killed my father. I want justice to be done on this matter. We want to know the people that killed my father."

An eyewitness, Mr. Ibrahim Babagana, had on Tuesday told PUNCH METRO that the deceased, who had worked with Julius Berger for 35 years, alighted from a vehicle when he saw that one of the company's vehicles had been stopped and the driver was being questioned by the policemen.

As the senior driver, the eyewitness said Wahab felt it was proper to inquire what the problem was and how it could be resolved. But an argument ensued and the policemen allegedly rough handled the deceased and seized his handset and money.

Babagana, who sells motor spare parts in the area said, "This morning (Tuesday), about 5am, my friend and I were urinating under the bridge, we saw a vehicle belonging to Julius Berger stop on the bridge and a man alighted from the vehicle. When the man approached the policemen, he asked them what the problem was and demanded why his colleague was stopped. The next thing we saw was that they started rough handling the man and collected his money and phone.

"The man was telling the policeman that took his money and phone, 'give me my money and my phone.' Suddenly, the policeman pushed the man from the bridge and the man fell down. As he fell down, we rushed to the bridge to find out what was going on. We saw the policemen on one power bike and they ran away towards Orile. We came down from the bridge to rescue the man but he was dead before we got to him."

"The policemen wanted the other Julius Berger driver to give him money but Baba Ahmed tried to explain that

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the company does not give bribe. Before we know what was happening a policeman pushed him (Baba Ahmed) from the bridge," another witness, who preferred not to be named said.

The Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. Frank Mba, had on Tuesday said the cause of the death of the man was still a mystery to the police, adding that the Commissioner of Police, Mr. Marvel Akpoyibo, had already ordered a comprehensive investigation into the matter.

He said the matter had been transferred from the Iponri Police Division to the state Criminal and Investigation Department, Panti, for a thorough investigation.

Mba said, "The circumstance surrounding that death is still shrouded in mystery. The allegation was that police officer on duty had an encounter with an employee of Julius Berger and the man allegedly fell and died.

"The policemen who were on duty were promptly arrested for preliminary interrogation.

"So far, we have not been able to find anything that will expressly say that the police actually caused the death of the man. Well at the same time, we are not saying that the men are innocent. The fact that we are holding our men does not mean that we have pronounced them guilty. We are also not saying that they are innocent.

Mba on Wednesday said the police followed due process on the deposition of the corpse at the mortuary, adding that, " We are going to conduct an autopsy on him. Police is investigating the matter."



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- We all have to pay the price of death.If by been on uniform you kill people as if they are goats,not to worry,yours is on the way.Confess your sins and God will show mercy.

Posted by: **Alexander Enyinnah** , on Friday, June 18, 2010

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- The NPF should be sued for their barbaric acts of assault on hapless nigerian citizens.Probably when aggrieved persons through our judicial system are able to exact their pound of flesh like in developed societies,the NPF would take more seriously the conduct of their men.It is a pity that in the NPF we have recruited some murderers,thieves and all manner of misfits as law enforcement agents.As a people our empathy for the abused should stir us up for change.It could be your father or mine.

Posted by: **ayanfe** , on Friday, June 18, 2010

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- This is man's inhumanity to man,we have forsaken our dwellings and the land wants to cast us out.Where is our refuge? God have mercy!

Posted by: **KINGSLEY NKWAZEMA** , on Friday, June 18, 2010

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