

# Police kill driver, injure another in Ilorin

**Emmanuel Addeh,  
Ilorin**

**R**ESIDENTS of Ogele, a community near Eiyekorin in Ilorin, Kwara State, were on Monday evening thrown into mourning as a policeman from the state mobile police unit allegedly shot and killed an assistant driver of a truck and injured another.

The victim, one Dele Olaniyi, died on the spot, while another assistant driver, Waheed Jamiu, was seriously wounded and as at Monday night receiving treatment at the General Hospital Ilorin, the state capital.

When our correspondent

visited the scene of the shooting the body of the truck, marked Kwara XB 515 SHA, was seen riddled with bullets.

Our correspondent report that the police, which initially insisted that the truck was carrying illegal goods, were however surprised when the truck was forced open and discovered that it contained only an empty 25-litre can.

The dead victim, who wore a white top and jean trousers, was found lying in the pool of his own blood in the front of the truck with his head riddled with bullets.

Hundreds of sympathisers gathered at the warehouse

where the offending policemen was kept and tied before he was eventually rescued by a detachment of policemen from the state police command headquarters.

Youths of the community who insisted on instant justice for the mobile policeman sang war songs, demanding that the man who shot the victim be released to them.

The killed driver, who was an assistant driver with Mount Olive Farms Nigeria Limited, a commodity merchandising concern, a source told our correspondent, had driven past the police checkpoint without slowing down "because the

policemen were not in the habit of checking long trailers."

Our correspondent learnt that the police were usually "settled" on a monthly basis on behalf of the truck drivers to avoid harassment by the policemen manning the checkpoint. The checkpoint was however dismantled by irate youths immediately after the incident.

The policemen at the checkpoint when the incident occurred allegedly fired shots at the youths when they attempted to apprehend them and injured many in the process.

Speaking with our correspondent, the farm manager, Dr. Sambo Hyelni, said that those present at the warehouse tried to rescue the policeman before he was forcefully snatched by the youths who mauled him before he was salvaged by his colleagues.

The Officer in Charge, MOPOL, Kwara command, Sadiq Abubakar, who led policemen to the scene refused to speak on the matter, maintaining that only his boss, Mukhtar Ibrahim could speak officially.

When our correspondent contacted the state police spokesperson, Ezekiel Dabo, he said he did not have details because "he had not received signals from those in the field."

## Science, technology gateway to Africa's development — Obasanjo

**Tunde Odesola, Osogbo**

**T**HE Global Conference of Black Nationalities commenced in Osogbo, Osun State, on Monday, with former President Olusegun Obasanjo submitting that science and technology remained Africa's gateway to development.

Specifically, Obasanjo urged cooperation and unity within the black race, stressing that the race had survived long years of slavery, depression and marginalisation.

Describing the black race as the most globalised on the face

of the earth, he said "we are under utilised in the division of labour and resources," Obasanjo said.

President Goodluck Jonathan, who was represented by the Minister of Federal Capital Territory, Navy Captain Caleb Olubolade, noted that the conference was a platform for cross-fertilisation of ideas.

The president added that black culture would be the richer at the end of the five-day conference, even as he commended Governor Olagunsoye Oyinlola for hosting

the conference.

In his introductory address, Oyinlola expressed the belief that the conference would further unite blacks and white races because, according to him, it would break religious, creed and colour barriers.

"Some of the strongest factors militating against sustainable global peace and progress are prejudices, biases and discrimination, which have caused upheavals in practically all regions of the world," Oyinlola said.