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Tears as driver killed by LASTMAmen is buried

January 11, 2013 by Temitayo Famutimi [27 Comments](#)

Scenes of the burial

The 54-year-old commercial bus driver, Isaac Popoola, who was allegedly killed by men of the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority, was on Thursday buried in his residence on 16 Ojo Ogundana Crescent, Akowonjo, Lagos.

Family members and friends especially bus drivers and conductors thronged his residence to pay their last respects. Prayers were also offered for those he left behind.

Tears flowed freely at the lying-in-state held before the burial. As the dust-to-dust rites were about to begin, his widow, Modupe, was repeatedly lamented, “My husband is gone.”

Rev. Julius Olumilara, the clergyman who conducted the burial service, asked the family members and friends of the deceased to put those responsible for his death in God’s “court.”

He said, “I’m glad with the testimony I heard about the life and times of the deceased. He has reached his own bus stop and that is why we also need to lead a good life.

“I know you are all embittered with the circumstances surrounding his death, but, let’s leave everything to God to judge as he is the superior being whom nobody can contend with.”

Popoola’s conductor, Aremu Salawu, who witnessed the incident, said he had yet to recover from the shock he suffered on that fateful day.

Salawu, who joined Popoola as a conductor in 2009, said the deceased helped him with the settlement of the debt he incurred in his failed business.

He said, “If I am to write the story of my life, Popoola will feature prominently in it as he saved me from the shackles of bad debt. When I approached him to be his conductor after my butchery business failed, he did not hesitate to help.

“Apart from paying me my daily entitlement as his conductor, he set aside money which he accumulated over the months which I used to clear my debts.

“It saddens my heart each time I remember that he is no more.”

A bus driver, Ameachi Onyema, while paying his tribute described Popoola as a detrabilised Nigerian.

He said, “Baba as we fondly called him was an agile, gentle and detrabilised man. He wasn’t a rich man, but whenever I take my financial problems to him, he gladly lent a helping hand.

“I remember a day I approached him for help, despite having only N500 on him, he still doled out N200 to me. He would be missed by all at the motor park.”

Popoola’s first son, Ibukunoluwa, lamented that neither the Lagos State Government nor the authorities of LASTMA had paid any form of condolences to his family.

He said he was very “disappointed and saddened” at the development, adding that all he wants now is that the culprits be “brought to book.”

He said, “Not even a telephone call from any government official to commiserate with our family on the loss we suffered. That shows how insensitive they are to our plight. He is not just our father but the

breadwinner of the family.

“It saddens my heart and I feel disgraced as a Nigerian that the LASTMA officials who are working for the state killed my father, and the state government just kept quiet.”

Asked about the handling of investigation by the police, Ibukunoluwa said, “I’m in contact with the policemen handling the case at the State Criminal Investigation Department.”

Popoola died after Adesanya Olatunde and Oludele Ogunrinde, both officials of LASTMA, allegedly hit his head against the steering and the door frame of his bus repeatedly in their attempt to forcibly take over the vehicle.

The incident happened around Brown Bus Stop in the Oshodi, on December 24. Popoola is survived by five children.

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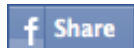
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Wole Adaje January 11, 2013 at 3:35 am

LASTMA are THUGS in uniform

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- *Fakoya Abiodun* January 11, 2013 at 5:10 am

May his soul rest in peace.

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- *Tunde sanni* January 11, 2013 at 5:32 am

May his soul rest in peace amen

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- *henry* January 11, 2013 at 6:11 am

I know fashola and tinubu will pay for this IJN

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- *henry* January 11, 2013 at 6:13 am

You guys formed this wicked group called Lastma .

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- *henry* January 11, 2013 at 6:14 am

And you wont call them to order

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- *henry* January 11, 2013 at 6:14 am

RIP . So Sad

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• [david](#) January 11, 2013 at 6:53 am

Some do take marijuana amidst them. Infact, 80 percent out of them are turgs.

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• [Andrew](#) January 11, 2013 at 6:59 am

I always tell u pple dat ACN government is established 4 killing and destructions not to make life better 4 us.BOLA IGE,one of dia funding father caused violence in d south west in 1983,by telling dia followers like,AKANDE,TINUBU and so on to kill opposition members as at dat time.But today Bola Ige has paid 4 his sin.Remember d 2 holy words says"HE WHO KILLED BY SWORD SHALL SURELY KILL BY SWORD" Both Tinubu and others will wages 4 dia sins.REMEMBER,Aregbesola is dia chief turg.

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• [Ayelabowo Sunday](#) January 11, 2013 at 7:00 am

It may not be rightly judged by the curroptible judges of our nation though; but the Almighty who is ever impartial with anybody will definitely visit the colprits at the due time.
Rest in peace baba.

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• [Fwoms](#) January 11, 2013 at 7:03 am

Fashola must rescrean dese socald lasman cos some dose nt kwow de job

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• [hillson anne](#) January 11, 2013 at 7:18 am

Lasmen re so wicked. I pity d family of d deseased

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Kenny G January 11, 2013 at 7:54 am

Pple always learn 4rm d past mirtake, u pple r now regretin of voted acn 2 be ur Governor. Time wil tel... RIP

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WWW.EXPORT-BITTER-KOLA.BLOGSPOT.COM January 11, 2013 at 8:03 am

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PAYLESS January 11, 2013 at 8:12 am

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• *Damsey* January 11, 2013 at 8:15 am

So sad.r.i.p. Lagos state traffic mad men they cal dem.justics shld be brought upon dose mad men?

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• *Dan* January 11, 2013 at 8:30 am

All ACN STATES AR FULL OF AGBEROS..4RM D GOVERNOR TO THE TRUCKPUSHERS>yariba ppl sef

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• *C S Adekunkle* January 11, 2013 at 8:33 am

Baba has gone to rest in peace but that useless thief called Fashola and his father who introduced LASTMA BABA THIEF TINUBU Pls let them know it shall not be well with them for they are wicked and the Bible says tell the wicked it shall not be well with them.

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• *ola* January 11, 2013 at 8:57 am

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check to their operations. At least Lagosians would no longer have to contend with power drunks and extortion seeking officials who do not mind going out of their scope of operation to struggle the steerings with car owners in the name of arrest and penalization. My deep sympathy to the family of the bereaved, while I also implore the relevant authorities to continually monitor their activities.

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• *Anam Joseph* January 11, 2013 at 1:36 pm

Whatever the LASTMA officials did is binding on the state government. Fashola should be held responsible bcos he is the one they are working for. When the going is good all the praises goes to him now that is bad he should be blamed for irrational act of his subordinates.

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• *osheku lami* January 11, 2013 at 2:16 pm

So sadden!

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• *Kayode,Redemption camp* January 11, 2013 at 4:09 pm

It's so sad that things like this are happening in our society today, I don't know how people feel after doing wrong things and they feel so indifferent, and we cry for a state police. Hmmmmmmm, where are the state governments going to shop for the the mess, I mean men from ? Fellow Nigerians, I think it's time to have a second thought and stop being myopic on government propagandas.

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