

Abducted Ondo Prof found dead in bush • Group protests don's killing

Published [September 11, 2019](#)



Gideon Okedayo

Peter Dada and Ademola Babalola

The body of a professor in the department of Mathematical Science, Ondo State University of Science and Technology, Okitipupa, Ondo State, Gideon Okedayo, who was kidnapped by unknown gunmen last week, has been found.

Okedayo and his driver were kidnapped by the gunmen on their way to Igara in Edo State, but the driver was later released and he reported the incident to the police.

The Edo State Police Command had earlier ascertained that it recovered Okedayo's official vehicle, a Toyota Corolla with number plate, 06X47OD, few hours after the abduction.

It was gathered that Okedayo's decomposing body was found on Monday in the bush.

However, it could not be confirmed if the late lecturer was killed by the abductors or not as of the time of filing this report.

The Chairman, Joint Action Committee of Staff Unions of OSUSTECH, Mr Temidayo Temola, who confirmed the discovery of the corpse to our correspondent on Tuesday, said the incident had saddened all members of staff of the university.

The labour leader, who described the late don as a peace-loving and generous person, said the sad news had thrown the OSUSTECH campus into mourning.

“In fact, the death of Prof. Okedayo is a big loss to this institution; we will really miss him,” he stated.

Similarly, the Chairman of the OSUSTECH branch of the Academic Staff Union of Universities, Dr Dipo Akomolafe, said the body and the entire university community had been thrown into disarray and were saddened by the development.

“His decomposing body was found in the bush. This is so sad to ASUU and his family, because the abductors never called anybody, whether ASUU or the Okedayo family, for ransom,” he lamented.

Meanwhile, the umbrella body of Yoruba youth groups, the Yoruba Youth Socio-cultural Association, has condemned the killing of Okedayo.

The YYSA said in a statement made available to *PUNCH Metro* by its President, Olalekan Hammed, that Nigerian security agents were very poor in the area of intelligence gathering.

The group said the security agents needed to up their game to forestall such occurrences, “because they have been unable to arrest and apprehend Mrs Funke Olakunrin’s murderers till date.”

It added that it would be a waste of time “if we tell them to fish out those, who kidnapped Prof. Gideon Okedayo.”

The YYSAs stated, “In fact, the ineptitude of Nigerian intelligence agencies prompted the statement made by the Department of State Services that some people were planning to set Nigeria on fire. The statement could be political or a way to cover up their incompetence.

“Surely, we need apolitical and refined security operatives to ensure the safety of lives and property in the country.

“Enough of excuses from the Nigerian government and security agents.”