

# Lagos hoodlum shoots lady dead on election day, flees

Deji Lambo

A hoodlum, identified simply as Adejebi, aka Skye, has allegedly shot a lady, Halimat Abowaba, to death on Abeokuta Street, behind the Agege Stadium, in the Agege Local Government Area of Lagos State.

PUNCH Metro gathered that Adejebi, alongside other hoodlums, were celebrating the victory of a political party on Abeokuta Street when he suddenly brought out a gun and started shooting indiscriminately.

In the process, one of the stray bullets reportedly hit Abowaba, who was in front of her mother's drinking joint on Abeokuta Street.

A resident, Gbenga Samuel, while lamenting the incident, said one of the bullets from Adejebi's gun hit one of Abowaba's laps, adding that neighbours and family members rushed her to the Ifako Ijaiye Teaching Hospital in a desperate bid to save her life.

Upon getting to the hospital, Samuel said medical workers, after assessing the degree of the injury sustained, referred her to the Lagos State University Teaching Hospital.

He, however, said the 27-year-old lady bled to death.

Samuel said, "One of the political thugs in Agege named Adejebi, aka



• Abowaba

Skye, while celebrating the victory of his party on election day, started shooting indiscriminately and one of the stray bullets hit a lady, Halimat Abowaba, in her lap.

"Adejebi was drunk when he started shooting. The incident happened around 6pm and the lady was rushed to the Ifako Ijaiye Teaching Hospital, when they

got there, she was referred to the LASUTH but the lady died in the early hours of Sunday. Halimat died because she lost a lot of blood. The bullet shattered her lap.

"Her mother runs a beer parlour. I am speaking out because in cases like this, politicians will do everything to sweep it under the carpet, especially because this is an



• Lagos CP, Idowu Owohunwa

election period. I am not sure the family reported the matter to the police."

Explaining further, Samuel said Adejebi had gone into hiding after perpetrating the crime, adding that Abowaba's family, who initially wanted justice for her, had accepted the events that led to her death as the will of God.

He added, "Adejebi has been on the run; the incident that claimed the life of the lady happened around 6pm and a lot of people witnessed it. Adejebi was the only armed person among all those political thugs celebrating the victory of the party on the day of the presidential and National Assembly elections on Saturday.

"People alongside the victim's mother shouted that political thugs killed Halimat. I learnt that the victim's family members wanted justice and were willing to take up the matter but later on, we started hearing that they are no longer going ahead with the case."

Contacted, Abowaba's sister, Aisha, who said she was not at home at the time she was shot, explained that when she returned, she met her family members crying over her sister's death.

Aisha, who was unwilling to give an account of the events that claimed her sister's life because she was not around when the incident happened and because she was still mourning, handed the phone to their mother.

In a sorrowful tone, the bereaved mother said she had accepted her daughter's death as the will of God, adding that no matter what she did, it could not bring her dead

daughter.

"Please, we don't have anything to do or say. It is God that will judge them. All the explanations you want me to narrate cannot bring back my dead daughter. Whatever we do, it cannot bring Halima back. I leave everything to God," he said.

Efforts to reach the state

Police Public Relations Officer, SP Benjamin Hundeyin, proved abortive as he did not take his calls as of the time this report was filed.

PUNCH Metro gathered that during the presidential and National Assembly elections in the state, hoodlums suspected to be sponsored disrupted election

activities at Eti-Osa, Ejigbo, Oshodi, and Sunlure, among other areas in the state.

While some of the hoodlums reportedly snatched ballot boxes, some others intimidated the electorate who turned out at their respective polling units to cast their votes for their preferred candidates.

## Residents cry for help as miscreants terrorise Lagos community,

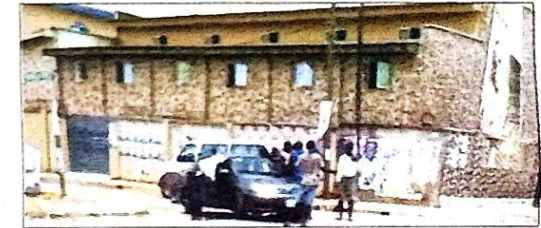
Toni Ufoh

LANDLORDS and residents of Agbotikuyo, Oke Koto and Fashola in the Agege area of Lagos have cried out over the activities of some street urchins known as 'Awawa Boys.'

PUNCH Metro gathered that the miscreants usually operate in the morning and at night, attacking passersby and residents unchallenged.

After PUNCH Metro reported the nefarious activities of the miscreants in November 2023, the Lagos State Police Command took action by going after the hoodlums.

But residents told our



• The miscreants in action

correspondent that the miscreants have since regrouped and resumed their activities in the community.

Our correspondent sighted some of the miscreants on Monday on Fashola Street as they were stopping motorists and passersby and collecting money and other valuables from them.

A member of the Adegbola Community Development Association in Agege, Oluwadamilola Maxwell, said the boys have become more emboldened.

Maxwell attributed the problem to the fact that whenever they are arrested, they are later released on bail.

He said, "In our area, these boys have become too strong for us. Police would arrest them but some people will go and bail them out."

"Last week, in front of our street, they were stopping cars and commercial motorcycles and were collecting money. When they don't get what they need, they will use daggers and guns to rob people."

"They broke into my friend's shop on Shofunde Street and went away with his generator last month. The next morning, he came to his shop but when

he saw what they have done, he was not himself again."

A resident of Bolaji Street, Kayode Ogunsola, said residents have arranged to employ members of the Odua Peoples' Congress to protect their side of the street because of hoodlums.

"We cannot allow thieves and robbers in our area here in Agbotikuyo. It is not acceptable. We have decided in our CDA to engage OPC members to start patrolling this area. Those boys don't fear the Army or policemen," he said.

A resident of Fashola Street, who did not want his name in print, told our correspondent that the miscreants operated in broad daylight last week.

"Awawa Boys have turned Fashola Street into their headquarters. One house which has been sold but not yet renovated is where they stay on our street. If anyone comes too late at night, they will be robbed by these boys," he said.

When contacted, the Lagos State Police Public Relations Officer, Benjamin Hundeyin, told our correspondent that he is not aware of the situation.

"I am not aware of this matter but I will look into the matter and get back to you," he promised.

## Man slumps, dies during fight over parking space

Dayo Oyewo

A yet-to-be-identified male adult has slumped and died during an argument over a parking space at a supermarket on Admiralty Way, in the Lekki area of Lagos State.

PUNCH Metro learnt that the deceased, a driver, went to the supermarket on Friday, February 24, to purchase some items for his employer.

He was however instructed to park his vehicle properly by a staff member of the supermarket but he decided to park somewhere else. An eyewitness, Tunji Gafar, said this led to an argument and a fight ensued between both of them.

Gafar said, "The man came to do some shopping for his employer



• Admiralty Road

and by the time he was about to park, a staff of the supermarket who coordinates the parking space

directed him where to park, but he refused and went ahead to park somewhere else.

"The staff member then approached him to park properly as instructed, but the driver declined. This degenerated into a confrontation as they both engaged in a fight. This drew the attention of one of their supervisors in the supermarket that came to intervene."

"By the time he got to the scene, the driver had already collapsed. When they discovered that the guy did not stand up on time, they started to pour water on him but he did not respond."

Gafar added that a female domestic staff who came with the driver claimed that the staff used something to hit him.

He said, "When we rushed to help the man, a female domestic staff that came with

## him kept saying that the staff used something to hit him. Although the staff insisted that they did not engage in any fight, they only shouted at each other before he slumped."

"We later ordered a taxi and took the driver to a nearby hospital. When we got there, he was referred to another hospital. It was when we got to the second hospital that he was confirmed dead."

A staff member of the company who did not want his name mentioned said the late driver's employer rushed down to the supermarket some hours after the incident and threatened to arrest the workers.

He said, "The employer of the driver came here later in the day

and by the time he arrived, he started to threaten us with arrest. He said he was a regular customer at the supermarket and that his employee did not deserve to be beaten."

"He also demanded CCTV footage of what happened between them but there was no one to operate it that evening."

Meanwhile, the supervisor simply identified as Bilal and the staff were arrested and taken to Maroko Police Station.

The Lagos State Police Public Relations Officer, Benjamin Hundeyin, confirmed the incident.

"Yes, the incident happened. The case has been transferred to the State Criminal Investigation Department in Yaba," he said.