

Student Stabbed To Death In Soccer Rage

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The Lagos State Commissioner for Education, Dr. Leke Pitan and the Commissioner of Police, Lagos State Command, Mr. Emmanuel Adebayo have been called upon to assist in fishing out the killers of Reuben Olawaseun Oshoja.

Reuben Oshoja, an SS2 student of Lagos State Government Secondary School, Oto Ijanikin, was murdered in cold blood by yet to be identified persons on 28 February, 2007 after a football match between his school and Ojo High School, Lagos.

Mid-Week Crime Watch checks revealed that Reuben had followed his school mates to Ojo Military Cantonment, venue of the match between his school and Ojo High School on that fateful day to cheer his school team to victory in the on going Principal's Cup zonal competition.

It was further learnt that at the end of the match, his team, Government Secondary School, Oto Ijanikin won. However, the stu-

dents of Ojo High School did not take the defeat like sportsmen as they ambushed the winning school outside the cantonment.

Mid-Week Crime Watch gathered that the winning school was attacked by people believed to be students of Ojo High School immediately they came out of the military barracks singing victory songs.

It was during this fracas that persons believed to be students of Ojo High School pursued students from Lagos State Government Secondary School Oto Ijanikin, with cutlasses, broken bottles and other dangerous weapons injuring many of them in the process. Oshoja was stabbed to death at Agric Bus Stop, a few metres to the barracks while a female student had her breast slashed into two and is now lying critically ill at an undisclosed hospital in Ojo.

When *Mid-Week Crime Watch* visited the home of the murdered student at 21, Goriola Oshinu Street, Oto Awori, Ijanikin, his father, a 44-year-old spray painter, Samson Oshoja (a.k.a Super) told *Mid-Week Crime*

Watch that Reuben was his only child and he had been struggling to bring him up all alone since his mother abandoned him when he was only three years old.

He lamented that it was his dream that after his secondary school, he will proceed to the university where he would learn interior decoration, something better than what he (the father) himself is currently doing.

He lamented that since the incident happened, nobody from either the school or the Ministry of Education or even the police had visited him to know how he is faring. "They have taken away the sunshine out of my eyes, I have been thrown back to square one, no wife and my only hope has been brutally murdered. Oh, they must fish out my son's killers and bring them to justice," Mr. Oshoja cried.

At Lagos State Government Secondary School, Oto Ijanikin, the Principal, Mrs. S. O. Oladimeji refused to talk to *Mid-Week Crime Watch*.

She referred our correspondent to the Permanent Secretary/Tutor General, Education District 5, Agboju or the Commissioner for Education Alausa, stating that those were the only competent persons that could speak on the incident.

At the Ministry of Education, Alausa, the Commissioner was said to be at a crucial meeting while Mr. M.A.O. Ojikutu, the Permanent Secretary/Tutor General, Education District 5, Agboju was directed to speak with *Mid-Week Crime Watch*.

He confirmed the incident but added that the cause of the death of Reuben Oshoja had not been established as investigations had, so far, not pointed at anybody.

He said he suspected that politicians may have hijacked the situation and were attempting to turn it into a fight between the Awori and Ojo indigenes.

He told *Mid-Week Crime Watch* that he had held series of meetings with the principals of the schools remotely affected, students representatives of the two schools and the PTA of the two schools to ensure that there will be no repeat of such incident in future.

He appealed to the father of the dead student to be a little patient and allow the constituted authorities to conclude their investigations.

The Lagos State Commissioner of Police, Mr. Emmanuel Adebayo on the other hand told *Mid-Week Crime Watch* that investigation into the matter has been transferred to the State CID, Panti, Yaba and appealed to members of the public to volunteer information to the police that can lead to the arrest of the perpetrators of the crime.



information, Lagos State, representing Asiwaju Bola Tinubu, at the titled 'Guerilla Journalism', written by Sunday Dare, yesterday at Photo: Idowu Ogunleye.

ins Indefinite Strike

issues regarding the welfare of judiciary staff as agreed upon in 2005.

However, failure of the government, both state and federal to address these issues led to the resumption of the indefinite strike by the workers. The indefinite strike was suspended in July, 2005.

Ikeja jurisdiction were locked up.

The Nigerian Bar Association, Ikeja branch expressed their solidarity with all legal and constitutional steps taken by the judiciary staff union but they however implored the union to manage the strike action very well to ensure that thugs and miscreants do not hijack it.

Activities at the Lagos courts