

Landlady Crushed To Death

OLATUNJIOBASA

A landlady at Ewupe area of Sango, Ogun State, Nigeria known as Iya Gomez was this morning crushed to death along the Lagos-Abeokuta Expressway, Abule Egba U-Turn bus stop. She was on an okada trip from Sango to Lagos.

P.M.NEWS checks revealed that the okada rider was riding against the traffic (one-way) from U-Turn bus stop to Agege junction on the expressway to beat the early morning traffic jam on the road.

The Okada ran into a vehicle that crushed the passenger.

Eyewitnesses informed P.M.NEWS that Iya Gomez died instantly while the okada

Soyinka

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posted in the online news portal, Saharareporters.com.

One of his critics on the same portal, Remi Oyeyemi, a former *THE NEWS* staff based in America, had queried the Nobel Laureate: "Is there any particular reason Soyinka did not disclose this 'tea party' incident to the public at large? Is there something involved in this than we can all fathom from the surface? Why did Soyinka acquiesce with the press reports that he turned back from Benin Airport when he actually sat with IBB in Oshiomhole's house before 'escaping to freedom'?"

"This is very pertinent because as things are today, the Nigerian people are looking for above board leaders and opinion moulders. For such opinion moulders to be as effective as warranted, they need to have integrity and must be believable. We are not asking them to be angels. Neither are we asking them to be saints. They are entitled to their own errors and mistakes. But they must always level with us. Every time they make any public statement, it must be the truth that could not be contradicted. It enhances public confidence in them and upholds their integrity.

"There should not be any sign that those who seek to mould our views and what we think about public issues and personalities are trivialising our trust. They should not give the impression that they are doing something else and telling the rest of us another. For those who are politicians, we can expect them to play games with

rider sustained some bruises all over his body.

Law enforcement agents at the accident scene used the deceased phone to contact her relation who identified her as Iya Gomez.

Before P.M.NEWS left the scene, policemen from Oko Oba police division were about to remove the corpse of the woman and the injured okada rider together with the bike to their station.

Residents of U-Turn bus stop and eyewitnesses told P.M.NEWS that okada riders usually rode against the traffic in the area, especially in the morning. But whenever they were arrested by LASTMA officials, they usually resisted.

the truth some of the times or most of the times because of their vocation."

Soyinka in his rejoinder berated Oyeyemi for the insinuations he made in his article and debunked IBB's claim. He said:

"There is a deplorable tone of pomposity, of dictatorial conceit in Oyeyemi's article that sets one's teeth on edge. Here is an article premised on a profusion of 'ifs', 'maybes', 'might bes', 'it is possible that', 'alleged', 'reportedly', yet filled with conclusive judgmental expressions and smug censoriousness. Setting up oneself as a judge of political moralities requires a more rigorous approach to the marshalling, and presentation of suppositions and facts. You do not impute a 'cover-up' on such feeble, convenient, purely speculative terms – and over such trivia!

"A surprise encounter, totally unexpected that took place in the presence of, and involving at least thirty others in the reception room of a state governor is not, by any stretch of imagination, an encounter to be tendentiously described as taking place 'behind closed doors'. This was in the 'public domain', and it is presumptuous for anyone to require that I give an account, as a public duty, to what was clear to everyone in that formal and open space as a fortuitous encounter, and one with all conversation audible to all, including a swarm of reporters and photographers that accompanied Babangida into that lounge.

"However, Ibrahim Babangida, in the account offered by Oyeyemi, was absolutely correct in one aspect. I have no personal problem with