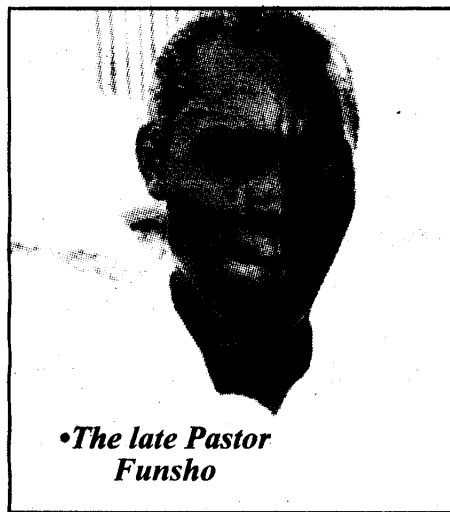


Apostolic Pastor Crushes MFM Pastor To Death



•The late Pastor
Funsho



DEDEIGBO AYODEJI

A pastor with the Mountain of Fire and Miracles Ministry (MFM) has been crushed to death.

Pastor Funsho Okutuga was crushed by another clergyman with the Apostolic Church, whose name was given as Elder Adegbite Olawale.

Elder Olawale, *P.M.NEWS* learnt, drove the car, a white Volkswagen Golf car with registration number KM 994 EKY, which knocked down the MFM Pastor at Adeniyi Jones

on 17 September.

Instead of rushing him to the hospital, the Apostolic Pastor allegedly took him to his church at Agege where elders of the church advised him to take the corpse to the mortuary at the Lagos State University Teaching Hospital, LASUTH, Ikeja.

The Apostolic Pastor also lied to the authorities of LASUTH that the deceased was his uncle and was 40 years old instead of 63.

A lawyer and brother of the

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**N150 Per Litre
Outrage
Over
Proposed
Fuel Price**
—Story on pg. 6

Reps Probe NNPC Over N450b Debt

DESMOND UTOMWEN/
Abuja

There are indications that the House of Representatives will soon commence a wholesale probe into the activities of the Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation, NNPC.

P.M.NEWS reliably gathered this morning that the lawmakers are particularly peeved by the recent reports of rejection of August allocation by the state governments following the inability of the corporation to account for the controversial N450 billion allegedly owed the federal allocation committee.

P.M.NEWS learnt that state governments on Friday rejected their August allocation following the breakdown in the

negotiations over the repayment plans of the N450 billion illegally deducted from the Federation Account by the NNPC.

Blueprint Newspaper had reported that state commissioners of finance had declared at the monthly meeting of the FAAC, which was rescheduled for last Friday that unless the NNPC refunded the money, they were no longer willing to receive allocations from the Federation Account until further notice.

The commissioners of finance at the meeting demanded an immediate stoppage of upfront deductions of funds meant for the subsidisation of petroleum products, as well as upfront deductions to finance joint venture cash calls.

The commissioners insisted

that the practice of deducting from the source for equity (JV Cash Calls) negates the provisions of section 80, sub-sections (1) (2) (3) and (4) of the 1999 Constitution which stipulate that all revenue accruing to the federation must first be paid into the Federation Account before disbursement.

The controversies over the debt was sparked off by the alarm raised by the former Minister of State for Finance, Remi Babalola that the corporation was insolvent and as such could not remit the sum into the federation account.

Babalola's position was supported by the reconciled industry audit of NNPC op-

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10 Undergraduate Prostitutes Arraigned

Ten female undergraduates were on Monday arraigned before an Igbosere Magistrates' Court, Lagos for harbouring and practising prostitution.

The suspects are Bimbo Duru, 25, Anita Nelson, 23, Imade Igbinsosa, 26, Itua Christopher, 23, Isivehormen Imoni, 24,

Others are Blessing Ogbomudia, 26, Kate Ufort, 26, Sharon Uzor, 24, Margaret Macdonald, 25, and Tonia Ekong, 22. The name of the university they attend was not disclosed.

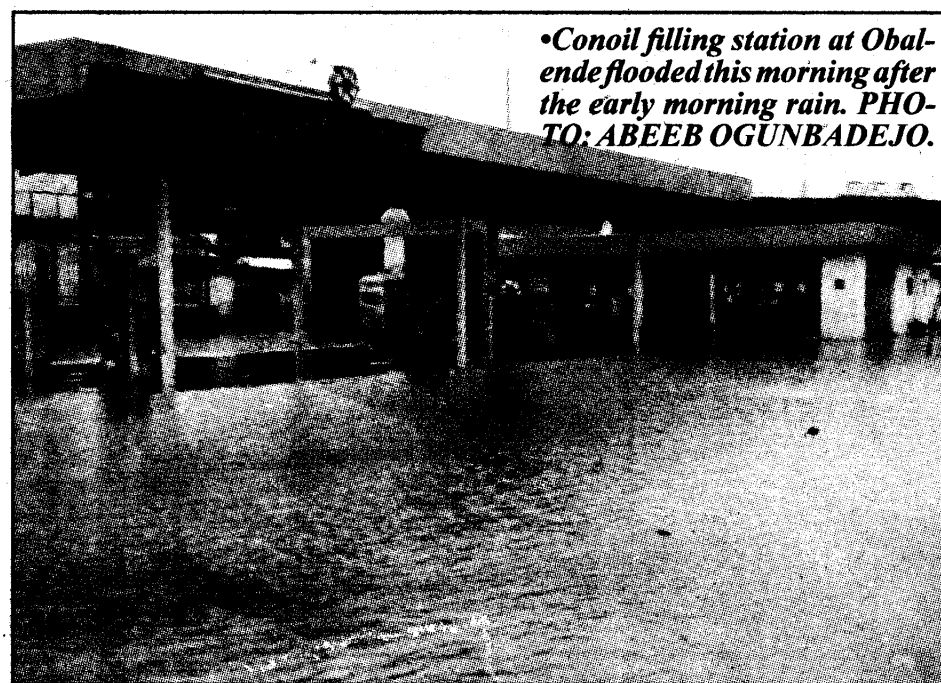
The women are standing trial on a three-count charge of managing a brothel, unhealthy conduct and engaging in pros-

titution.

The Prosecutor, Sgt Ngonbo Emby, said that the accused persons were on September 14 at about 10 p.m. at Ruxton Road, Ikoyi, found engaging in the unlawful act of prostitution.

He said that one of the ac-

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•Conoil filling station at Obalende flooded this morning after the early morning rain. PHOTO: ABEEB OGUNBADEJO.

A defendant in a divorce suit, Mr. Sarafadeen Adejumo, 57, has told an Agege Grade 'A' Customary court, Lagos, Southwest Nigeria that he flogs his estranged wife, Mrs. Simbiat Adejumo, to compel her to have sex with him.

Sarafadeen, a vulcaniser, made the revelation during cross-examination in a suit filed by the petitioner, Simbiat, 46, seeking the dissolution of her 26 years marriage on grounds of constant beating and other irreconcilable differences.

"She bought the cane to pursue birds from eating her goods.

I Flog My Wife For Sex —Man Tells Judge

IBRAHIM BAKARE

Then, I took it from her shop and use it to flog her whenever she denies me of having sex with her," he told the court.

He accused his wife of committing adultery, saying

"we were at home enjoying ourselves one day when suddenly her phone rang and immediately she went out of the room without her pant. She didn't return home until

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He then adjourned the suit till 4 October, 2011 for judgment.

Trailer Crushes Woman

IYOKA EBOSETALE
HARRISON

A truck with registration number XK 588 LSD, belonging to Coca-Cola last night crushed a woman on her way to church to death along the ever busy Alagbole/Akute road, Odo Eran but stop, Ogun State, Southwest Nigeria.

The woman was said to be a resident of B-Close, United Estate, within the area.

An eye witness gave told *P.M.NEWS* the woman took a bike in front of the estate and was going to church when the truck carrying empty crates crushed her when the woman, because of fear, fell off the motorcycle.

People gathered to take a look at the woman while other held on to the *okada* rider.

P.M.NEWS learnt that her relatives came to the scene of the incident to see what was going on and they discovered that the woman was their relative and started crying and cursing the runaway truck driver that killed her.

A call was put to men of the Ajuwon Police Station.

It was gathered that youths in the area tried to set the truck ablaze but were prevented because of the filling station that was opposite the scene of the incident.

They got angry and destroyed the empty bottles and vandalised the truck.

The woman's body was later taken away by her relatives in a Honda CRV green colour with registration number BK 391 KSF.

It was also gathered that the policemen later came after the woman's body had been taken away by her relatives, and cleared the broken bottles on the road.

man was voted in by the people, he ought not to have resorted to unleashing such cruelty on the people by increasing fuel prices.

"Look at how they want to change things. They first came up with the 6-years single term issue and now they want to scrap the fuel subsidy with the excuse that the subsidy was not getting to the people it was meant for.

"If the fuel subsidy put in place is not getting to the people, whose fault is it? Such should be treated as criminal. I feel very bad about this; it is madness for the Federal Government to increase the prices of fuel," he said.

An advocate of the Supreme Court, Chris Akiri, in his opinion, said the move was ill-timed by the Federal Government, saying it would be unfortunate if the president went on with the action which he described as a threat to the country.

He said to increase the pump price by even 20 per cent at this stage of the country's existence was unacceptable.

"It is going to engender a lot of negative effects. It will increase the cost of living and make the standard of living which has already fallen to fall the more.

"Remember, there is a limit to which you can push the people. My own attitude is to wait and see but I know Nigerians are ready to protest against it and I am sure the government will not carry out this threat," he said.

Another House of Representatives member, representing Oshodi-Isolo Constituency II, Hon. Hakeem Muniru said the move was unacceptable, saying it was a further degradation of the psyche of the people.

"The House of Representatives will kick against this and come out with plans against this. It is not the best of time to do this. Before you can do anything like that, you have to put in measures

government decided to focus on increasing the price of fuel. Another reason President Jonathan is embarking on the increment is because of the high rate of corruption, stealing and waste in government, to the extent that the same government no longer has enough fund for developmental projects.

"So the next thing is to begin to exploit the people and further milk them of their hard earned money. I know the government would base its argument on the high international price of the product and further tell you that it has been over-subsidised in Nigeria, but this is not tenable especially looking at the challenges the country is already facing," he said.

According to him, Nigeria requires extra-work and extra-progress at this stage instead of extra-negative effect of living in the country, while urging the various workers' unions and the entire country to rise up against the move.

Comrade Debo Adeniran, Founder, Coalition Against Corrupt Leaders, CACOL, said the move by the government to increase fuel price was unwarranted and uncalled for, saying it was another way of punishing the proposed hike.

"Nigerians should rise up to the occasion and defend their rights and make the country ungovernable for those trying to destroy them," he added.

The National President, Campaign for Democracy, CD, Dr. Joe Okei-Odumakin, said the move "is wicked, callous, inhuman. Despite the resources we have in this country, it is so worrisome that the Federal Government wants to do this."

She lamented that former Civil Liberties Organisation, CLO leader, late Chima Ubani died during one of the struggles against the increase of fuel price by the Federal Government.

"I think this government has not shown any sign that it is ready to cater for the needs of the masses. Our people must brace up; we must rise in unison and say no to fuel increase and the removal of fuel subsidy.

"The government of Jonathan is interested in punishing us. We must say no and match our word with action. This should spark off a revolution and we are tired and

is the one from some places that the president should bring Gusau to government again. This man will ruin him if Jonathan appoints him. I am a northerner and I know your enemy can never be your friend.

In the event that the president goes ahead with the action, Shettima said: "we would be left with no choice than to help him cripple the country."

Meanwhile, *P.M.NEWS* has learnt that the organised labour comprising the Nigerian Labour Congress, the Trade Union Congress, and other such bodies are bracing for mass protests across the country on Thursday.

The Assistant General Secretary of the NLC, Denja Yaqub, told *P.M.NEWS* that the protests would take place across the country to make it effective and send signals to Aso Rock that the organised labour was no longer prepared for dialogue.

"Our position is that there won't be any dialogue or negotiation over this matter. No right thinking person would think it is right for the government to increase the price of fuel in the country.

"In fact, the protest is not only based on the proposed fuel price increase, but other happenings in the country for some time now," Yaqub said.

Reps

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erations covering 2006 and 2008 published recently by the Nigerian Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, NEITI.

The report showed that the sum of \$932.2 million was captured as the total unresolved differences for petroleum profit tax (PPT), royalties and signature bonuses, apart from a total oil and gas income of \$344.686 million for the period.

According to the report, the NNPC was unable to explain the differences of about 3,092,304 barrels between the volume of total oil allocated by the corporation and the volume actually lifted by companies for the period.

The unresolved differences and the controversies that followed claimed Babalola as its first casualty. He was redeployed to the Special Duties Ministry in what appears to be a punitive ac-

Apostolic

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deceased, Isaac A. Aina explained to *P.M.NEWS* that the bereaved family got the news of the death of Pastor Okutuga a day after the incident.

The lawyer said he got a text message from someone informing him that his uncle who was until his death a senior pastor at the Zonal headquarters of the MFM located at 13, Olasimbo Street, Sabo, Onike, Iwaya area of Lagos, had been rushed to the Lagos State University Teaching Hospital (LASUTH) after he was badly hit by a car.

"I proceeded in company of my sister, Mrs. Folake Olowe and others to the hospital. On our arrival at the hospital we were further informed by Elder Adegbite of the Apostolic Church, Agege, that my uncle was not in LASUTH, but at the Apostolic Church Medical Centre. We rushed there and the pastors and elders informed us my uncle was dead and his body deposited at the mortuary."

Barrister Aina explained that immediately the news was broken, he rushed back to LASUTH and told the other family members.

He said when they got to the

tion by the presidency for going public with the issue. Babalola eventually resigned his position.

Also, the Presidency ordered a forensic audit on the accounts of the corporation.

Minister of State for Finance Yawaba Lawan-Wabi recently assured that the forensic audit report was nearing completion, as it is currently being analysed by the appropriate authorities, pending a formal publication.

Early in the year, the Federation Accounts Allocation Committee gave a 30-day ultimatum to NNPC to remit the total amount to the Account or face dire consequences.

The threat was made by Alhaji Usman Rebo, Chairman of the Finance Commissioners' Forum and Taraba State Commissioner for Finance in a chat with journalists after the Technical and Plenary meetings of the committee held in Abuja.

Usman maintained that the concern of members of Fed-

adjourned for mention.

mortuary, they were told by the attendant that it was Adegbite who brought the deceased as his uncle.

Enraged by the incident and the role of Elder Adegbite, the family members informed the police who immediately got him arrested. The lawyer said Adegbite actually posed as someone who was trying to help rather than the actual suspect.

"My uncle was aged 63 and not 40 as claimed by the doctor's report, which also reported my brother's name as Folusho Okutuga instead of Funsho," Aina further said.

A police source confirmed the incident to *P.M.NEWS* and added that the scene was actually visited by the law enforcement agents.

"We interviewed people around the junction where the accident occurred and it was confirmed that the incident happened at 10 a.m. but the family members were told it happened at 2 p.m." the police source said.

The Deputy Superintendent of Police DSP Margaret Okonkwo, D.T.O Man Centre Division confirmed the incident and said the matter was being investigated.

eration Account Allocation Committee, FAAC, has been seriously heightened by the corporation's seeming lackadaisical attitude to the lingering debt issue.

"We have resolved to extend our last ultimatum by another one month for NNPC to come up with a repayment schedule. After that the whole nation will hear from us, because it is an issue we cannot just sweep under the carpet."

A member who spoke with *P.M.NEWS* on condition of anonymity this morning, hinted that the House was already getting poised to investigate the issue and other questionable financial dealings by the NNPC.

"We believe this is as a result of the lack of transparency, accountability and openness in the manner the NNPC is handling the financial issues of the country and we are certainly going to look into it soon," he said.