

## Prison Warder Shot Dead

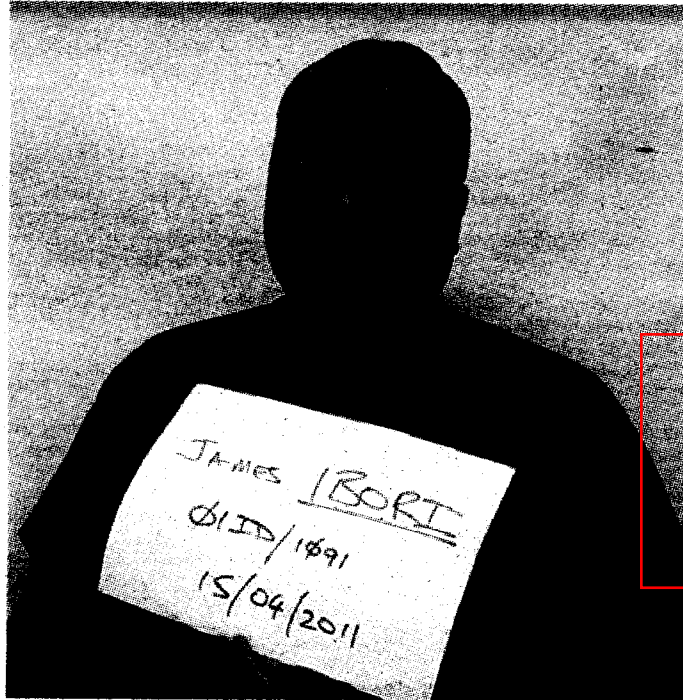
An Inspector with the Nigeria Prisons Service, Mr Erezidor Ugo was allegedly killed by a policeman during a scuffle on Sunday evening.

The incident, according to an eyewitness, occurred opposite Wisdom Estate, along Nikton Road in the Kpansia suburb of Yenagoa, Bayelsa, Southsouth Nigeria.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) gathered that the deceased, was shot in his house while entertaining two of his colleagues, who came to felicitate with him for buying a new car.

A Police patrol team, led by

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The sentencing proceedings of former Delta State governor, James Ibori in a UK court room started with drama this morning when dozens of his supporters who stormed the court in solidarity with him were bundled out by London Metropolitan Police.

Sahara Reporters which is covering the sentencing live reports that the hired supporters were transported to the court room by the Delta State government.

They were bundled out when they started behaving unruly inside the courtroom.

The supporters who were singing praises of Ibori, it was learnt, caused serious disturbance by shouting and shoving the prosecutor and court officials.

Following the rowdiness, the court invited uniformed London Metropolitan police officers to sort out Mr. Ibori's hired supporters.

There was a standoff as court staff ordered people to go back to the open hallway and wait for

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## Police Inspector Stabs Wife To Death

**OLUWOLE ADEBOYE**

A police inspector Sunday Ilu-Egben attached to Ikeja Police Division, has stabbed

his wife death.

P.M.NEWS investigation revealed that Ilu-egben stabbed his wife, Caroline, on Thursday night and she later died on

Daniel pleaded not guilty to all the counts.

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## ACN To PDP: Stop Using Religion To Destabilise Southwest

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Friday.

It was gathered that Caroline, mother of four was stabbed during a quarrel with her husband at the Olosan Police Barracks, Mushin, Lagos, Southwest Nigeria.

The incident occurred at the inspector's residence where he

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## Prison

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the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) of Ekeki Division, Mr Nemi Iwoh, was said to have arrived the area in response to a distress call from the area, which reported gunshots being fired in the vicinity.

The police team was said to have noticed one of the Prison Warders carrying a gun and tried to disarm him, but he allegedly refused to hand over the gun and in the ensuing scuffle it went off and killed Ugo.

However, wife of the deceased, Mrs. Binafegha Ugo claimed that her husband was shot dead by the police in her presence and that of her six-year-old daughter.

Ugo, who was said to have been shot in the abdomen, was immediately rushed to Glory Land Hospital, Ovom, where he died.

When NAN visited the hospital, the body of the deceased was found covered on a hospital bed with his relations and friends wailing.

The Police Public Relations Officer, ASP Eguavoen Emokpai confirmed the incident, saying all parties involved in the incident, including the DPO and a Prison Warder had been arrested.

NAN reports that the family of the deceased had at about 7 pm retrieved the corpse from the hospital and placed it at the entrance of the Police Command Headquarters, demanding for "justice".

Security had been beefed up in and around the police headquarters to avert any break down of law and order.

## London Police

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their names to be called from a list, but Ibori's supporters refused. They argued that the list was written by someone in front of the queue and he apparently included names of people who had not queued up as requested by the court staff.

Some pushed forward and had to be forcibly removed from court by MET officers who shouted on them to leave.

The sentencing proceeding was still going on as at the time of filing this report. The judge was yet to pronounce the jail terms.

Ibori faces up to 10 years in prison.

On 27 February this year, Ibori pleaded guilty in a British court to siphoning off \$250 million of Nigerian state funds which he spent on luxury houses, cars and a private jet, police said.

James Ibori, who was governor of Nigeria's oil-rich Delta State between 1999 and 2007, admitted ten offences relating to conspiracy to launder funds, money laundering and one count of obtaining a money transfer by deception and fraud.

The 49-year-old was remanded in custody following the hearing at a London court.

During his two terms as governor, Ibori "systematically stole funds from the public purse, secreting them in bank accounts across the world," London's Metropolitan Police said in a statement.

"His methods included the inflation of state contracts, kickbacks and the straight lift of cash from the state accounts by unscrupulous employees in his inner circle."

Ibori, who lived in Britain in the 1980s, came to the attention of London's Metropolitan police in 2005 and two years later a London court froze his British assets, estimated at £35 million (now \$55 million, 41 million euros).

Despite earning less than \$25,000 a year as governor, his portfolio included a £2.2 million house in the upmarket London district of Hampstead and a £3.2 million mansion in Johannesburg's wealthy Sandton district in South Africa.

He owned a \$20 million private jet and also spent money on fees for exclusive British boarding schools and expensive hotels.

Ibori was first arrested by the Nigerian authorities in December 2007, after losing immunity after leaving office.

## America

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After one of the two challengers, former Colombian finance minister Jose Antonio Ocampo, dropped out Friday complaining that the selection process was all political, it left Okonjo-Iweala as Kim's only challenger.

There were some hopes from critics of the Bank that the powerful emerging BRICS economies — Brazil, Russia, India, and China — might coalesce around Okonjo-Iweala, a two-decade veteran of the bank, but those were scotched when Moscow on Friday publicly endorsed Kim.

That almost guaranteed that the tradition that Washington names the World Bank head and Europe supplies the leader of the International Monetary Fund goes unchanged.

"Everyone inside the Bank assumes the US guy will win," a Bank farm-sector specialist told AFP.

"The only way around that is if European countries refuse to back the US candidate. In the current context, it doesn't seem

likely," said Daniel Bradlow, a law professor at American University in Washington.

The winner, who the bank says will be chosen by "consensus" as early as Monday, will replace current President Robert Zoellick, the former US diplomat who will leave at the end of his five-year term in June.

The position is crucial for much of the developing world. The president oversees a staff of 9,000 economists, development experts and other policy specialists, and a loan portfolio that hit \$258 billion in 2011.

Last year the bank committed \$43 billion to new loans and grants, helping diverse countries to develop infrastructure, administration, and key sectors of their economies.

Like the leadership succession last year at the IMF, the race to head the Bank has sparked muscle-flexing by newly empowered emerging economies and poorer countries who have called for a more open process based on merit.

The entry into the race of Ocampo and Okonjo-Iweala,

both respected economists, forced some discussion of the bank's development mission.

"Before, when there was only one candidate, the US backing counted for 99 percent and merit for one percent," said former Bank economist Uri Dadush.

"Now, with several candidates, merit counts more. But it is not the essential thing."

Even so, the US nomination of Kim, a medical doctor with deep experience fighting HIV/AIDS in developing countries and head of prestigious Dartmouth College, marks a significant change from the American bankers and diplomats who have been tapped to lead the Bank in the past.

"It's time for a development professional to lead the world's largest development agency," President Barack Obama said when announcing his nomination in March.

But critics worry Kim's experience is not broad enough to handle all of the fields the World Bank deals with, from infrastructure development to environmental protection.

## ACN To PDP: Stop Using Religion To Destabilise Southwest

The Action Congress of Nigeria (ACN) has warned the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) against continuing to play the religious card in its desperate and ongoing attempt to destabilize the Southwest, saying the consequences of such a misadventure will be too grave for the nation.

In a statement issued in Lagos on Monday by its National Publicity Secretary, Alhaji Lai Mohammed, the party said the concocted accusations against Osun State Governor Rauf Aregbesola, that he is trying to Islamize the state and also engineer secession, are part of the PDP's grand plan to use religion as a destabilizing force in the South-west in particular and the whole country in Nigeria.

It said the fact that the PDP desperadoes and their collaborators in the security services could even try to link Governor Aregbesola with Boko Haram is an indication of how low they are willing to sink just to carry out their nefarious plot.

ACN also expressed surprise that in its desperation, the PDP ensured that its collaborators in the security services, in routing their imaginary security report, bypassed the normal channel of communication on national security issues.

"The South-west as a region does not have a history of religious intolerance as, in most families, adherents of the various faith have co-existed peacefully through the ages. It is

therefore curious that a party that prides itself as pan-Nigeria will seek to end the age-long religious tolerance in this region just for political expediency," ACN said.

The party said any keen observer of the way the PDP-controlled federal government has handled the Boko Haram crisis will not be too surprised that the party's goons in the South-west, backed by their clueless bosses at the federal level, are resorting to religion in their inordinate quest to 'recapture' the region they so mindlessly plundered in their first coming.

"The Boko Haram crisis has become the meal ticket for the PDP and its chop-I-chop members, what with the huge chunk (about a quarter of the 2012 budget) allocated to 'combating' it. It is also the party's trump card for maintaining a stranglehold on the nation, hence its flame must be kept aglow at all costs, human or material."

"It is also common knowledge that President Goodluck Jonathan of the PDP has frittered away the goodwill that followed him into office, through a succession of poorly-thought-out policies. With his eyes firmly set on another mandate even when he has not justified the current one, he and his party believe that his surest ticket to another mandate is to keep the flame of Boko Haram burning, and continue misinforming the international community that the crisis is rooted in religion, rather than in years of irresponsible governance, the type of which

the PDP has foisted on Nigeria since 1999.

"That is why the PDP federal government has paid only a lip service to all efforts to find a lasting solution to the Boko Haram crisis."

It was the government's insincerity (the mediators said so) and the government did not deny) that led to the collapse of the most recent attempt to resolve the crisis. In the post-9/11 world, the best way to attract sympathy from the international community is to put the terrorism badge on any acts of brigandage or social disorder and then link it with religion.

"However, the game is up for the PDP, and the party will know this if it bothers to read between the lines the recent apt characterization of the Boko Haram crisis by the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of African Affairs at the US State Department, Mr. Johnnie Carson," ACN said.

The party therefore warned: "PDP should stop exploiting religion for whatever purpose. It should stop encouraging those who are bent on exploiting it to destabilize our country. And as Mr. Carson rightly advised, let us make it impossible for Boko Haram or any group whatsoever to 'capitalize on popular frustration with leaders, poor government service delivery and the dismal living conditions' of many of our citizens. The only way to do this is good governance, not scare mongering. We hope the PDP is listening."

## CNPP Slams Lagos Doctors Over Strike

KAZEEM UGBODAGA

The Conference of Nigerian Political Parties, CNPP, Lagos State Chapter comprising 25 political parties, has condemned incessant strikes by doctors in Lagos State public hospitals.

A statement issued by CNPP called on the doctors to always resort to peace and dialogue in settling dispute rather than resorting to strike all the time to press home their demands.

The statement was signed by CNPP State Chairman, Akinola Obadia; Secretary, Pastor Ayo Akintayo; Publicity Secretary, Dr. Smart Ofonyiri and Treasurer, Chief Emisbata Balogun.

CNPP said it viewed with grave concern the three-day warning strike upon by doctors in Lagos, saying that without prejudice to the rights of the doctors to seek a better welfare package, "we wish to warn against any act that could seriously jeopardise and threaten the precious lives and health of the people. We totally condemn the strike in its entirety."

They said: "Whatever grouse they may have with government on the implementation of CON-MESS and taxation of doctors must be weighed against the precious lives that may be and will definitely be lost because of their strike."

"We also wish to appeal to the

## Police

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lives with his family.

A source told our correspondent that the inspector and his late wife were living separately due to a misunderstanding prior to the incident. But the late Caroline usually visits the barracks to see her children. Often, she slept at the barracks during such visits, it was learnt.

On the day of the tragic incident, the late Caroline arrived at night and slept with her husband on the same bed in the parlour, while the children slept in the bedroom.

According to one of the daughters (names withheld) who spoke to the police, "my daddy and mummy have not been living together because of a quarrel they had in the past. But mummy usually comes to check us and gives us something. She would also sleep."

"But between Thursday night and Friday, when she came, she slept with daddy in the parlour, on the same mattress because daddy usually sleeps in the

doctors to resist the temptation of being unduly influenced or incited to go on strike by selfish politicians with the motive of taking political advantage of the situation."

According to the statement, "The Lagos State CNPP is of the humble view that the administration of Governor Babatunde Fashola is enlightened and reasonable enough to listen to genuine and reasonable demands of the doctors."

"Moreover, the government has given a public assurance to perfect whatever error may be involved in its implementation. We repeat that neither personal interest nor political motivation should be allowed to hold sway in this grave circumstance."

"We in the CNPP are great advocates of good remuneration for our doctors who are co-labourers with God to save lives and relieve pains but we strongly appeal to them to shun the method of going on strike to achieve better conditions of service considering their humanitarian and sworn moral obligation to protect and save lives."

"We therefore wish to appeal to our noble doctors to shelve the strike action, either warning or otherwise and resume negotiation with the government immediately. We cannot afford to toy with the lives of our people," they added.

parlour while we sleep in the room. Daddy used to wake up at 5.30 a.m. and leaves for work at 7.00 a.m. When I got to the parlour, I saw my mother's mouth covered with a scarf with a pillow soaked in blood. She was stabbed on the neck.

"I raised the alarm. We rushed her to the Lagos University Teaching Hospital, LUTH because she was still breathing. But she later died at 2.00 p.m. on Friday."

P.M. NEWS checks revealed that Inspector Ilu-Egben has not reported at his duty post at Ikeja Police Division since the incident happened on Friday.

But he was calling his daughter on phone to ask if the wife has recovered.

Contacted on phone this morning, the Lagos State Police Public Relations Officer, PPRO, Supol Joseph Jaiyeoba confirmed the incident adding, "the case is under investigation."

Meanwhile, the corpse of the late Mrs. Caroline Ilu-Egben had been deposited at the morgue for autopsy.

## Daniel

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Arguing for his bail in an application, counsel to Daniel, Prof. Tayo Oyetibo, SAN, said that he had filed a reply to the counter-affidavit filed by the EFCC opposing the application.

Oyetibo said a written address dated 16 April 2012 had also been submitted.

He frowned at the procedure being taken by the EFCC in opposing the bail application for his client.

Oyetibo said, "the content of the counter-affidavit constitutes a fresh abuse of the process of the court. I submit that the process filed to annoy or harass a litigant is an abuse of the process of the court. It is also an abuse of the court to premeditate or organise vendetta. I therefore submit that the most important thing for granting bail to an accused person is to ensure that he showed up whenever he is needed. Bail is a contract between the government and the accused. This is a peculiar case because this is not the first time the accused person will be appearing before your Lordship, Sir. I therefore urge the honourable court to grant the accused bail."

The defence counsel also alleged that the EFCC is not serious about the case as they have levelled several allegations against Daniel which they

have not come out to defend.

He said, "I am not sure the EFCC know what they are doing. The former EFCC chairman Farida Waziri had alleged that Daniel stole N58 billion from the coffers of Ogun State. During the proceedings last year, nobody mentioned the said amount. And EFCC never apologised to the applicant after they had told the whole world that he stole N58 billion. Later they alleged he stole \$8 million and N5.5 billion which was not proved by the EFCC. Now they accused him of stealing N211 million and land in Ogun State and not in Abuja or Port Harcourt."

"Also, when the first bail application was tendered, they accused Daniel of having a killer squad. They based their submission on a counter-affidavit which was deposited to by a police officer, Danladi Data. For someone to have a killer squad is a felony offence. Why does the police officer not report to his boss, the Inspector-General of Police? Newspapers went to town with the story. But up till today, nobody has been arrested as a member of Daniel's squad. We have decided to report the police officer (Data) to the Police Service Commission. To lie on oath is a criminal offence that is why we are not going to take it lightly with Data."

"We are drawing the attention of this honourable court to these

harassments, so that it can take notice of them. It is a way to forestall quick disposal of the matter. Also, EFCC is making what I can refer to as an uncharitable reference to the death of Apaguti Olumide. There was no time that the EFCC had the intention to use Olumide as their witness. And Olumide had made absolutely no statement against Daniel. EFCC are trying to use political connotation, acting in collaboration with the political opponents of the applicant to frustrate the quick disposal of the matter."

Responding, EFCC counsel, Rotimi Jacobs, opposed the bail application, saying he relied on the 22-paragraph sworn to by Danladi Data.

Jacobs said the reply to the counter-affidavit was published this morning in the Compass newspaper.

He added that part of the charges have been released to Compass newspapers allegedly owned by Daniel.

Jacobs said, "all the arguments raised by my learned friend, are just an attempt to soil the hand of the deponent. It is an attempt to cover up something. He alleged that the Ogun State government is sponsoring the proceedings. And he cannot prove it."

"He also alleged that there was an attempt to poison the accused person while in the custody of the EFCC. The argu-

ments were not meant for this purpose but to misinform the general public. The complainants, the petition and investigation had been concluded before the last general elections, while the accused was still the governor of Ogun State. This is not a political trial. It is a serious offence."

On the N5.5 billion allegation, Jacobs said it is not the figure that matters, but the fact that surrounded it.

"My Lord, the matter should not be politicised or trivialised but should be taken seriously. All the arguments cannot apply to criminal trial. As at this morning, I still received three e-mails that their lives are in jeopardy."

"All the witnesses are expressing fear. The issue of bail is at your lordship's discretion. If you want to grant bail as you have done in the past, there must be conditions attached to it to ensure that the lives of witnesses are protected."

In his ruling, Justice Olanrewaju Mabekoji stated that having looked at the arguments from both counsel, he intended to remand the accused person.

But his lead counsel, Oyetibo pleaded that he alongside three other lawyers, Kunle Kalejaiye, SAN, Mrs. Titi Akinlawn, SAN, and former Attorney-General in the state, Akin Osibajo, be allowed to write an undertaking to allow the accused person go to his house

and come from there at the next adjourned date.

As at press time, Justice Mabekoji was inside his chamber writing his ruling on the bail application.

On Friday 2 March, an Abeokuta High Court threw out the 143-count criminal charge filed by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC against Daniel.

The 43-count criminal charge included stealing of public funds, illegal deduction of local government funds and diversion of public funds.

While throwing out the case last month in Abeokuta, the Ogun state capital, southwest Nigeria, the presiding judge, Justice Olanrewaju Mabekoji said that the appellants had failed to follow the constitutional provision required to file information containing indictable offences.

Mabekoji said, "trial leave of court is required to file information containing indictable offences by any person in the High Court. The EFCC failed to comply with section 340 (2) of the Criminal Procedure Law before filing the information. Therefore, the information is liable to be quashed."

"EFCC has made a fundamental error and based on their failure to fulfil the constitutional provision, the court cannot go on to hear the case unless the right thing is done."