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Man, 87, Killed With Acid Over Land

Posted By pmnews On May 17, 2012 @ 5:06 pm In Metro, News | 1 Comment

Members of the family of Alhaji Muniru Okeowo, 87, who was allegedly killed with acid on Thursday at his residence at Abule Iroko, near Sango, Ogun State, Southwest Nigeria, have instituted a case against the woman who was involved in a land tussle with the old man, Mrs. Adijatu Gbadamosi.

Narrating the incident to *P.M.NEWS* this morning, the first child of the deceased, Mrs. Monsurat Ajayi, alleged that the woman connived with certain people to kill her father.

According to her, "My father bought the parcel of land in question at 15, Olanrewaju Street, Abule Iroko, from the lawyer to the family that owns the land.

"He had been living in the house for the past 15 years, until the woman came and said she bought the same land from a surveyor. The matter was taken to court at Ota.

"About five years ago, the court gave a judgement in favour of the woman. My father went to Appeal Court in Ibadan. The appeal is still pending until last Thursday at about 7 a.m. when my father called me on phone that some people were in the house trying to evict him.

"Before I could get there, they had hacked down my father, poured petrol, acid and perhaps other chemicals on him. I was told that a surveyor, a police officer in uniform and a bailiff from the court were among the people who carried out the attack.

"When I came, I saw my father in pains. He was not yet dead. We took him to Ajike Memorial Hospital, Abule Iroko. From here, he was referred to Lagos University Teaching Hospital, LUTH, Idi Araba, Mushin, Lagos.

"At LUTH, we were told that doctors were on strike. They directed us to Military Hospital, Yaba, Lagos. They also rejected him and referred us to Jolad Hospital, Gbagada. Again, he was referred to Excel Children Medical Centre, Dolphin Estate, Ikoyi. We got there at about 9 p.m. We were asked to pay N20,500 for registration and to deposit N300,000. But we did not have such amount of money. We went to rally round for the money. But when we got there on Saturday with the money we raised, the old had died."

She said the matter was then reported at Sango Police Station in Ogun State. But the woman denied sending the man who attacked the old man. The police told the family to come back to the station tomorrow (Friday) by 10 a.m.

Meanwhile, the family is expected to meet with their lawyer, Mr. Raji, who is preparing a legal action on the matter soon.

Residents of Abule Iroko who spoke with *P.M.NEWS* this morning described the late Alhaji Okeowo as an easy-going person and a responsible member of the Community Development Association, CDA in the area for many years.

The man was buried on Monday according to Islamic rites on the disputed land.

-Abiodun Onafuye/Sango



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