## Education Review / CAMPUS SUN

...WITH SAM OTTI

## 2 OKOPOLY students die in car crash

## Aggrieved students blame ASUP

BY EMEKA ONWUDINJO

f ASUP had not been on strike, my cousins would not have died." These were the pathetic words of Nwajiaku Kenechukwu, as he wept profusely on the tragic death of her relatives, Daniel Ofobuike and her younger sister, Ginika Ofobuike, who lost their lives in a fatal motor accident on November 12.

Campus Sun gathered that the victims were students of the Federal Polytechnic, Oko, Anambra State, who lost their lives while travelling to Nnewi, to spend some time with their relations, following the ongoing strike by Academic Staff Union of Polytechnics (ASUP).

Daniel, 21, and his younger sister, Ginika, 18, were ND 1 students of Science and Laboratory Management, OKOPOLY and hailed from Ezioko in Oko Community, Orumba North before the unfortunate incident.

To their parents, Mr. and Mrs. C.U.P. Ofobuike, November 12 was a day of tears and darkness, when the lifeless bodies of his two adorable children were taken to the morgue. Also, students and friends of the deceased are yet to recover from the shock of the incident.

Comrade Abba Abel, President of Science and Laboratory Department, described the death of the two students as pathetic and unfortunate. He said death has stolen the best from the land, noting that the entire Polytechnic has lost great students.



Late Daniel



·Late Ginika



Students carrying the casket of their late colleague for Photo: Emeka Onwudinjo

"Both of them were friendly to every member of our department, Ginika never discriminated among her fellow students. She was very quiet and gentle and loved by everyone in the class," he said.

Nwajiaku Kenechukwu, cousin to the deceased students, lamented bitterly and said, "If ASUP had not been on strike, my cousins may have not die." He further said that the sudden death of the two was a shock to their family and entire polytechnic.

"Daniel is such a wonderful guy that is lively and don't bother anybody. Talk of Ginika whom we normally call *Giniqueency* due to her noble character. She is very intelligent and social to everyone," he noted.

Another student, who gave his name as Ezeokoli Nathaniel, appealed to the FG/ASUP to reach an agreement and call off the strike that have brought tears on students and their parents.

Also speaking, the Director Welfare, Department of Science and Laboratory, Martins Ogbonna, recounted how he met the victims and became intimate friends. " A classmate called me and wanted to know if I heard what happened to both of them. I was shocked when I was told they died in a car crash. I could not sleep for days because they are more close to me, especially Daniel, who always came to me with any practical work for assistance. They were among the most gentle and nice students on campus," he said.