

Emmanuella Abimbola Fashola (right) and the Oba of Lagos, Oba Rilwan Akiolu (2nd left), during an event to mark the governor's 2,900 Days in office at Ikeja yesterday.

# Students shut down UI over colleague's death

From OLUSEYE OJO,  
Ibadan

**The death of a 200-Level student of the Department of Human Kinetic Education, Faculty of Education University of Ibadan, Mayowa Alaran, threw the institution into pandemonium for several hours yesterday.**

The university community was shut down by students, who took to the streets, protesting Alaran's death. Academic activities were paralysed. After barricading the main entrance of the campus, the irate students blocked the Ojoo-Sango Road in front of the main gate.

The blockade hindered vehicular movements and led to a logjam in Orogun, Ojoo, Agbowo and Bodija areas of Ibadan. They also wrote several abusive inscriptions on the road against the institution's management, alleging that the negligence of medical personnel at the institution's clinic

caused the deceased his life.

The Oyo State correspondent of the New Telegraph Newspapers, Mr. Sola Adeyemo, who was at the university to cover the protest, was beaten blue and black by the protesters and his shirt was torn in the process. When the protesters wanted to seize his Blackberry Z3, he handed it to a policeman at the scene. But the cop told him after he was rescued that the students had collected the phone from him.

The deceased student, was said to have collapsed while watching the first leg of the semi-final match between Barcelona and Bayern Munich in the UEFA Champions League at the Independence Hall of the institution on Wednesday night. Barcelona won the match, which started at 7:45p.m by 3-0.

The Coordinator of Education Rights Campaign in Oyo State, Mr. Michael Ogundele, who is a student of the university, told Daily Sun that the students, who were with

Alaran at that moment called for the university's ambulance for immediate rescue.

"After 30 minutes, they could not get any response on the ambulance. Then, they took Alaran to the university clinic in Jaja within the campus. On getting to the clinic, they demanded for his Jaja or clinic card. For about 15 to 20 minutes, he was not attended to until the guy eventually died," he said.

The Students' Union Government (SUG) President, Mr. Odesola Olufemi, in a chat with newsmen, lamented that rather than reviving Alaran, the staff of the health centre were busy asking for the student's card, which according to him, led to Alaran's death.

His words: "Based on the inadequacies of Jaja and their irresponsibility in acceding to emergencies, the guy gave up. Now, we are demanding a total restoration of health emergencies in Jaja and other students' welfare structures such as water and electricity. We are tired

of the irresponsibility of our university management. We shall use this struggle to fight for our rights."

The Registrar of the university, Mr. Olujimi Olukoya, who described the incident as unfortunate, assured that the Vice-Chancellor of the institution, Prof. Isaac Adewole, has addressed the students, assuring that the issue would be addressed within 48 hours. On the harassed journalist, he said: "In this type of situation, nobody can really say that it was the students that beat up the journalist; but we regret it and we will look into it."

Olukoya further stated: "The issue of students going outside the campus to block the main road is uncalled for. I find it hard to believe that they are students because the vice chancellor had earlier addressed their leadership and efforts are going on to address the problem. For those that are outside, I find it difficult to believe that they are students of the university."

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