

Ondo SSG death: Tinubu, state govt, Gov. Abiodun, APC mourn

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From **Bamigbola Gbolagunte**, Akure and **Juliana Taiwo-Obalonye**, Abuja

The Secretary to Ondo State Government, Hon Tayo Oluwatuyi is dead.

Oluwatuyi died in the early hours of yesterday at an undisclosed hospital.

President Bola Tinubu has condoled with the Government and people of Ondo State over the incident.

Special Adviser on Information and Strategy, Bayo Onanuga, in a statement noted that Oluwatuyi, fondly called Tukana, died on Saturday following hospitalisation for serious injuries he sustained in an accident on December 15, 2024, while travelling to Ibadan, Oyo State.

The president condoled with the deceased's family, friends, and political associates.

He acknowledged the diligence of the former Chairman of Akure South Local Government and Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs in strengthening democracy in the state.

Tinubu expressed believes Oluwatuyi served the people of Ondo State with unwavering dedication, providing the necessary backbone for policy coordination and implementation and significantly contributing to the state's progress.

He Tinubu prayed that the Almighty God will receive the deceased's soul and bring comfort and solace to his grieving family.

Similarly, Ogun State Governor and Chairman of the Southern Governors' Forum, Prince Dapo Abiodun, has commiserated with the Governor and the people of Ondo State over the incident.

Ondo State chapter of the All Progressives Congress (APC) described the death of Hon Oluwatuyi as a colossal loss to the state.

Abiodun, in a condolence letter he sent to Governor Lucky Aiyedatiwa, described Oluwatuyi's death as a great loss to the government and the state at large and prayed for the repose of his soul.

He said: "I am deeply saddened by the news of the demise of Mr. Tayo Oluwatuyi, a consummate public servant, thoroughbred professional and highly conscientious individual whose imprints and strides in and out of the government in Ondo State have been nothing short of phenomenal.

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The governor noted that "the news of his death came as a rude shock, but, as in all situations, we recognise that whatever deep affection and love we had for him pales into insignificance when placed side by side with the love of Almighty God, who has chosen this Yuletide period to call him into His bosom, and whose will remains inviolate.

“On behalf of the Southern States’ Governors, I want to sympathise with His Excellency, Governor Lucky Aiyedatiwa, and the entire good people of Ondo State over the sudden demise of Oluwatuyi.”

Also in a statement, the state chairman of APC, Mr Ade Adetimehin on Saturday said the sudden and untimely passing of Hon. Tayo Oluwatuyi was a great loss to the state.

“This devastating news is a monumental loss, not only to his family and loved ones, but also to the entire people of Ondo State.

“As the Secretary to the Government of Ondo State, Oluwatuyi was an exemplary leader who embodied the principles of equity and fairness.

“His unwavering commitment to the well-being of our great state will forever be remembered and cherished,” Adetimehin added.

Also, the state government has mourned Oluwatuyi’s demise.

The state Commissioner for Information, Mr Wale Akinlosotu, described Hon. Oluwatuyi as a dedicated public servant whose unwavering commitment to administrative coordination, policy advisory, and implementation had a significant impact on Ondo State.

“He served with distinction and played a crucial role in the state government, working closely with the Governor and other top officials of Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs).

“Having served government in various capacities, including as Chairman of Akure South Local Government, Commissioner and twice as SSG, Hon. Oluwatuyi will forever be remembered for his invaluable contributions to the development of Ondo State.

“The government of Ondo State extends its deepest condolences to the Oluwatuyi family of Akure, friends, and associates during this difficult time,” he added.

An indigene of Akure, Oluwatuyi was appointed Secretary to the State Government by Governor Lucky Aiyedatiwa on January 24, 2024. Governor Rotimi Akeredolu first appointed him as the SSG in 2020.