

Imo pensioners blame Okorocha for colleague's death

November 20, 2017 Steve Uzoечи



Pensioners in Imo State yesterday expressed disgust over death of their colleague and chairman of the Nigeria Union of Pensioners (NUP), Imo chapter, Comrade Gideon Ezeji. They said his death was as a result of Governor Rochas Okorocha's "callous treatment meted out on Imo pensioners." According to them, Ezeji who spent the last months of his life fighting cause of pensioners in Imo died following Okorocha's 'callous treatment'.

Chairman of Retired Permanent Secretaries, Mr. Fabian Agba lamented Ezeji's death, describing it as an avoidable one. He said: "Like many of us have already said, the Imo state government cannot exculpate itself from the death of Ezeji.

They are to a very large extent responsible for his death. When you stop the income of a man who is above 70 years of age, do you expect him to seek another job elsewhere to survive at that age? Hunger is a weapon of war and the Imo state government dutifully deployed it against Imo pensioners especially those who vociferously demanded for theirs.

Ezeji was starved to death. "In case you do not know, Ezeji was undergoing dialysis twice every week. We all know how expensive it is to undergo dialysis, yet his pensions were stopped. You could kill a man emotionally long before he is dead. This is the plight of many pensioners in Imo state. "Until his death, Ezeji was being owed over 29 months in pension arrears. He was recently given a pension cheque for 3 months arrears but the cheque has bounced repeatedly. The cheque is still with the family yet unfunded.

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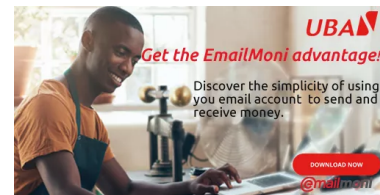
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