

# Cultists smash man's head for complaining about cult activities

Taiwo Jimoh

**S**uspected cultists have killed a 27-year-old man, Oladipupo Obazur, on a football pitch at Oworonshoki area of Lagos State.

Obazur, it was learnt, went to the football pitch at Sawmill area of Oworonshoki on Thursday, about 5p.m. to watch football match between two groups of youths in the community. Unfortunately, he was killed by suspected cultists who smashed his with bricks.

A source said the deceased was discussing the excesses of cultists at Oworinshoki not knowing that the person he was talking to was a member of the Aiye Confraternity. After the match, Obazur was going home when the cultists accosted and killed him.

A witness, Adedayo Mustapha, who was at the mini stadium also to watch the football match, said when Obazur and the suspected cultist were discussing the increasing number of cult boys, he never knew that the person he was talking to was a member of the group.

Mustapha added that after the match, he was about going home when he heard a gunshot; everybody at the stadium scampered for safety.

He said: "When the dust finally settled, some other youths and I went back to the stadium to check if anybody was injured only to see Obazur on the ground; his head had already been smashed with bricks. I guess it was because of his discussion with one of the spectators; unknown to him, the person is a cult member."

"The same cultists killed



Obazur

someone in July last year around the stadium. The cultists shot the person when he was about climbing the pedestrian bridge at Iyana-Oworonshoki bus stop. It is becoming too frequent to bear. We want police to patrol the community."

A spectator, who was at the stadium and gave his name

simply as Ade, said killing around the stadium area is becoming too much, police should beam their searchlight in the area and prevent further killing.

He said: "The stadium is a notorious place where killings take place. The killing of Obazur is sad and painful. Somolu Local Government Area should shut down the mini-stadium to prevent the killings taking place in the

area. A lot of innocent youths have been wasted.

"Even those of us who were at the stadium on the fateful day of the incident were scared when we heard the gunshot. Many of us are leaving Oworinshoki for fear of being attacked by the cultists. If you refuse to join them, you are automatically dead. I don't want to waste my life, I am still young."

Our correspondent tried to speak with Obazur's parents at their resident at Mayaki Street, they were said to have moved out of the community after their son was murdered.

A neighbour, who did not want her name in print, said that was not the first time such incident had occurred at the stadium.

He said: "Oworonshoki Divisional Police Officer (DPO) should always station his men at the stadium to prevent unwanted killing by the hoodlums."

"Obazur was a gentleman

and easy going person. I don't know why they killed him. He was the one taking care of his parents; now I don't know where the aged parents would start from. I pray God will console them.

"The rate of killing at Oworonshoki, Somolu and Bariga area is becoming unbearable for those of us who reside in the area. I am appealing to the state government to come to our aid; we are tired of the wanton killings.

"It was policemen from Oworonshoki station that evacuated the body from the stadium and deposited it in a private mortuary for autopsy to be carried out."

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Bala Elkana, said the command had launched manhunt for the assailants.

He said: "We are yet to arrest anybody in connection with the murder. We don't know what led to the death, but people are suspecting it was a cult-related killing. Investigation is ongoing in the matter."

## UK-based philanthropist launches NGO to help indigent Nigerians

Taiwo Jimoh

**A** United Kingdom-based philanthropist has launched

of the NGO is to empower youths, women and the less privileged especially in the rural areas on skill acquisition programmes for self-reliance and to

data, information and relevant publication.

He said: "We are also carrying out survey, research projects, network-

## Farmer smuggles in drug for son in EFCC custody

Sola Adenuga

tranquilizer used under strict Office of the PPRO