

# Another PDP Chieftain Assassinated in Lagos

Barely five months after a Lagos Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) governorship aspirant, Eng. Funso Williams was assassinated in Lagos, another PDP chieftain, Alhaji Ibrahim Bakare was felled by the assassin's bullets yesterday, raising tension in the political circles of the state.

Bakare, one of the campaign coordinators of the Lagos state PDP governorship candidate, Senator Musiliu Obanikoro was killed by unknown gunmen along with a female companion simply identified as Josephine.

The assassins were said to have trailed the victims from Surulere area of Lagos, where he had earlier attended a political meeting to Adeyemo Alakija, Victoria Island where they were gunned down.

His body was said to have been riddled with bullets fired from the guns of the assassins who escaped from the scene without removing anything from the car he was traveling in.

Although it was not clear yesterday why the PDP chieftain was killed but Lagos State Police Public Relations Officer (PRO), Superintendent of Police (SP), Olubode Ojajuni, who confirmed the killing of the PDP strong man stated that it was too early to conclude that it was assassination, but added that Bakare and his female friend were trailed from Surulere by the killers to Victoria Island.

The bodies of the deceased

*By Ademola Adeyemo and Eugene Agha*

persons have since been deposited at the mortuary where an autopsy is expected to be performed

Ojajuni said "details of the killing is still sketchy but information available shows that they were in Surulere for a political party meeting before they later on went to Victoria Island. Nobody can say for sure were they were going to before they were attacked, but police detectives from the Homicide section of the State Criminal Investigations

Department (SCID), have waded into the matter with a view to ascertaining the identities of those who participated in the crime" he added.

Ojajuni who also appealed to members of the public with any information about the gruesome killings to volunteer same to the police, added that the assailants, pumped bullets into the body of Josephine when they discovered that Bakare was not alone inside the car.

However, the late Bakare's Dolphin Estate home was deserted yesterday. When THISDAY visited the place, the black gate to

the compound was locked with no sign of human presence. But neighbours who heard the news were seen discussing the incident in low tones.

The late Bakare was a special implementation assistant to the former Minister of Works, Chief Adeseye Ogunlewe. He was said to have recently decamped from the Alliance for Democracy (AD) to the PDP following a political disagreement.

The deceased, a former secretary of Eti-Osa local government council was the son of the Balogun of Ojumu Ajiran in Eti-Osa local government, Chief Yekinni Bakare

## NICON Insurance Inherits N12bn Liabilities

### • Pays N55m claims to NAFDAC

The management of NICON Insurance Plc yesterday claimed it met liabilities totaling N12 billion when it took over the company in 2005, with pension arrears totaling N8 billion and claims debt standing at N4 billion.

The company confirmed the debt stock after it made a claims payment of N55 million to the National Food and Drugs Administration (NAFDAC) for the fire which gutted its office in Kaduna and

*From Kunle Aderinokun*

*in Abuja*

resumption, reduced the N8 billion pension arrears to N6 billion and the claims debt to less than N200 million, assuring that between January and September next year, the management will reduce the claims and liabilities to zero.

He stated that "When I came in, I did promise that we will be looking at the issue of claims and be paying them. We prioritized

about N8 billion. Drastically, we have reduced that from N8 billion to about N6 billion and we do hope that by next year, that will be reduced to zero. So NICON will be (free) in claims. Then we will now introduce a policy that will make claims to be made within 48 hours after accident."

However, Ibrahim said NAFDAC's Kaduna office, which was gutted by fire in March 2004, was insured by NICON prior to the assumption