

# Bloody!

## Again, Ladoja, Akala supporters clash, 3 killed in Akure

**DAYO JOHNSON**  
Akure

SUPPORTERS of governor of Oyo State Alhaji Rasheed Ladoja and his estranged deputy, Otunba Alao Akala, yesterday turned Akure, Ondo State capital venue of the South west flag-off of the presidential campaign into a battle ground as three persons were reportedly shot dead and over twenty others seriously injured. A female petty trader was also hit by a stray bullet at the venue of the ceremony yesterday.

Governor Akala was smuggled out of the venue by his supporters, but a Mercedes Benz 500 car which was said to

have smuggled him was destroyed by the hoodlums who were after him. One of the dead bodies was spotting the Alao Akala Campaign T-shirt. And the corpse laid at the entrance of the stadium as the fight raged on.

At least, fifteen vehicles belonging to the Oyo State government and the PDP in Oyo State were vandalized by the hoodlums who held party supporters and on-lookers hostage. The fracas was as a result of the presentation of the party flag to Akala by chairman of the party, Alhaji Ahmadu Alli as the party flag bearer in the 2007 governorship election in Oyo State.

Contrary to speculations that



**Violence.** The PDP rally for the South west zone yesterday, turned violent following clashes by supporters of Alao Akala and Ladoja. One of the party supporters in his own pool of blood after he was attacked at the venue of the rally

**Pics, Dare Fasube & Biodun Ogunleye**

Ladoja would be presented with the flag, tension rose at the Akure Sports Stadium venue of the ceremony as their supporters chanted abusive songs before the arrival of President Olusegun Obasanjo and other chieftains of the party.

*Sunday Vanguard* gathered that immediately the flag was presented to Akala, their supporters stormed out of the stadium brandishing dangerous weapons and engaged themselves in a fierce battle which the police were unable to control. Many supporters of the warring party leaders were stranded in Akure yesterday as the drivers of the vehicles that brought them fled to escape being caught in the raging crossfires. Party supporters ran helter skelter after the ceremony as the supporters of the leaders continued their fight for over one hour.

Reacting to the shooting, President Obasanjo said that it was the work of the enemies who wanted to disrupt the ceremony. Obasanjo, however, denied that anybody was shot dead adding that "is it possible for someone to be shot and the same person to start jumping.

It took the police in the state several hours to quell the uprising in the venue as political leaders were smuggled out of the stadium by their drivers while many leaders had a tough time locating their drivers after the crisis. The state police command could not be reached for comment as at the time of filing in this report, but *Sunday Vanguard* saw the corpses of the deceased before they were taken away by the police while the nurses attended to those that were wounded.

## Ex-minister Mimiko is corrupt, says Obasanjo

**• Vows to win Lagos for PDP at all cost**

PRESIDENT Olusegun Obasanjo yesterday said that the former Housing and Urban Planning minister, Dr Olusegun Mimiko would soon be investigated by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commis-

misbehaved and the EFCC would soon investigate him."

Also at the same venue, President Obasanjo and the PDP national chairman, Alhaji Ahmadu Alli vowed to win Lagos State "by all means" in the 2007 election. Speaking separately at