

Gunmen kill 73-yr-old industrialist

By Dayo Johnson

AKURE—FIVE gunmen have assassinated a 73-year-old industrialist in Akure, the Ondo State capital, Chief Joshua Fagbola and one of his relations simply identified as Wale.

He was in coma for four days at the University Teaching Hospital (UCH), Ibadan, Oyo State, before he finally died following the machete cuts on his head.

Police in the state confirmed the killing of the industrialist adding that investigation was on.

Image-maker of the police in Ondo State, Mr. Adeniran Aremu, told *Vanguard* that the police were on the trail of the killers. The deceased, popularly called Titilayo, was the pioneer producer of *pure water* in Akure (DPC pure water).

Vanguard gathered that the killers invaded his residence located on Federal University of Technology, Akure

(FUTA), road about 1 a.m. of the fateful night and left at 5.a.m.

Speaking with newsmen in Akure, a son of the deceased, Kayode Fagbola, said the killers gained entry after pulling down the burglar proof and went to the pure water factory located at the back of the building.

According to him, they went inside the late industrialist's room where they machetted him and his relation leaving them in the pool of their blood.

The assassins reportedly collected a substantial amount of money from the family of the deceased during the attack.

According to him, "Our father was not a politician but a renowned philanthropist, who had been helping the downtrodden irrespective of religious or tribal sentiment".