

Ogun covets Lagos Eyo festival

BY DAUD OLATUNJI

ABEOKUTA—OGUN State Government yesterday said plans were underway to take over the much-celebrated Eyo festival from Lagos State, claiming the cultural festival originated from Iperu-Remo, in Ogun State.

Commissioner for Culture and Tourism, Olu Odeyemi, who spoke in Abeokuta, noted that the government had almost concluded arrangement to introduce Adire school uniform into public primary, secondary and tertiary institutions in the state, to promote culture and patronage for local products.

On the plan to retrieve Eyo festival, the commissioner said there was an on-going talk over the issue between the governors of Lagos and Ogun states, Mr. Babatunde Fashola and Senator Ibikunle Amosun respectively.

He said: "Plans are underway to get back the Eyo masquerade that was taken to Lagos State. In fact, the masquerade belongs to the people in Iperu-Remo area of Ogun State. Eyo started from there."

Chief Keeji for burial

THE entire families of Anibaba, Fadipe, Wright, Eketunde and Keeji have announced the burial arrangement for their beloved sister, aunty, mother, mother-in-law and grandmother and Iya Ijo African Bethel Church, Ireshe Road, Ikorodu, Chief (Mrs) Kehinde O. Keeji.

According to the arrangement, there will be a Christian wake-keep by 5 p.m. today at Aa 44, Federal Low Cost Estate (Itoikin Road) Ikorodu while she will lie-in-state immediately after the event.

Robbery: 3 sentenced to death 7 yrs after

BY DAYO JOHNSON

AKURE—SEVEN years after, three persons; Dele Akinbolade, Olorunfunni Akintomide and Opeyemi Olaiya were yesterday sentenced to death for robbery by an Ondo High Court.

The convicts were sentenced to death by Justice Williams Akintoroye for robbing one Yahaya Suberu in 2005 while armed with guns and cutlasses.

The convicted persons, Dele Akinbolade, Olorunfunni Akintomide and Opeyemi Olaiya were sentenced to

death by Justice Williams Akintoroye for robbing one Yahaya Suberu in 2005 when armed with guns and cutlasses.

Justice Akintoroye found the trio guilty of robbery committed at 42, Odoyege Street, Ile-Oluji, on January 6, 2005, contrary to Section 1 (2) (b) of the robbery and firearms (Special Provision) laws of the federation.

According to the prosecutor, Mr Ife Olorunfemi of Ministry of Justice, the accused persons robbed the victims armed with guns and cutlasses contrary to the provisions of the law

of the federation.

The Prosecution counsel called five witnesses including the victim and policemen who arrested the convicts and investigated the crime.

Suberu, while giving

the graphic details of how the convicts stormed his residence on the day around 2.am, said they broke the door and came upstairs to meet him and threatened to shoot him if he raised any alarm.

According to him, they

made away with N150, 000, two handsets worth N72, 000 and jewelry worth N11,000.

1 dies, 15 pupils injured in Ibadan auto crash

BY OLA AJAYI

IBADAN—NO fewer than 15 pupils of Summit Comprehensive Secondary College and pupils of Mary Groups of Schools, Ogbere, Ibadan, were injured in an auto

crash when being conveyed to their schools in a commercial bus yesterday.

However, the conductor of the bus was unlucky as he was said to have died on the spot when he reportedly fell off the bus.

According to information gathered by Vanguard, the accident was occasioned by a brake failure which made the driver of the bus to lose control and skidded off the road.

It was gathered that the accident occurred around 7:30 am when the driver tried to avoid running into an uncompleted bridge at Ogbere Bridge.

Sympathizers at the scene of the accident rushed the affected children to St. Mary's Catholic Hospital, Eleta and the University College Hospital, Ibadan for medical attention.

A witness, Mr. Micheal Adeyinka, said the Hiace bus marked LAGOS XG 754 LSD was heading towards Ogbere, when it happened.

At the St. Mary's Catholic Hospital, Eleta, Rev. Father Clement Emerue, the Catholic Health Coordinator for Ibadan explained that 15 injured pupils were brought to the hospital including the conductor who was already dead.

The Oyo State Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Bisi Okuwobi, was yet to be informed about the incident but she promised to contact the police station in the area.

Meantime, Governor Abiola Ajimobi of Oyo State promised to offset their medical bills.



UACNAGM HOLDS: From right, Mr. Larry Ettah, Chairman; Mr. Hakeem Ogunniran, Managing Director, and Mrs. Folashade Ogunde, Finance Director, at the annual general meeting of UACN Property Development Company Plc in Lagos, yesterday. Photo: Sylva Eleanya.

LG polls: Ilaro boils as youths go on rampage

BY DAUD OLATUNJI

ABEOKUTA—A PALPABLE anxiety enveloped residents of the ancient town of Ilaro, the headquarters of Yewa South Local Government Area after hundreds of youth members of the Action Congress of Nigeria (ACN) stormed the ACN Secretariat in the local government situated on Leslie Road, in Ilaro, around 11.30am, vented anger on anybody on sight before they started vandalizing the party Secretariat.

The protesters, who

alleged that Amosun and the leaders of the party were planning to impose one of the chairmanship aspirant identified as Shafiu Odebiyi broke all the window louvers, tore the campaign posters and set ablaze the banners of Odebiyi in front of the

party secretariat.

An eye-witness told Vanguard that some youths in the party protested in Ilaro secretariat of the ACN to condemn the alleged planned imposition of Odebiyi.