

How hit and run driver killed Cleric in Ogun

By Daud Olatunji

ABEEKUTA-Emotion rose high and many people especially his neighbours and church members betrayed emotion when the news of the death of a catechist, Bro. James-Mary Oyelayo Ogundipe filtered round the town.

Brother James as he was fondly called, was born in 1948 and was a carpenter by trade but, was described as a very committed catechist.

Had he known that the road was thirsty of blood, he would not have plied the road on Monday April 13, 2015 and lost his life.

He was said to be on his way to teach some Christians evangelism when the unfortunate incident occurred.

An eyewitness disclosed that, James Ogundipe lost his life when a hit and run driver crushed him while he was riding his motorcycle on his way to a parish in Adigbe for evangelism.

Our correspondent gathered that his motorcycle was hit from behind at Adigbe area in Abeokuta the capital of Ogun state, causing him to hit his head on the ground and died on the spot.

According to an eye witness, the accident occurred due to the cab driver's recklessness.

It was gathered that, the deceased was not married. He worked at sacred heart hospital, Lantoro in Abeokuta.

A neighbour Adewale Akande described the deceased as a nice and gentle man. He said the man of God was an easy going and very calm person, adding that he has never had a cause to argue with anybody around his compound.

Further inquiry into the life of the deceased cathiscist, revealed that, Brother James had saved a woman's life who was in a state of comer by going to pick her at the hospital not knowing that he would die before the woman.

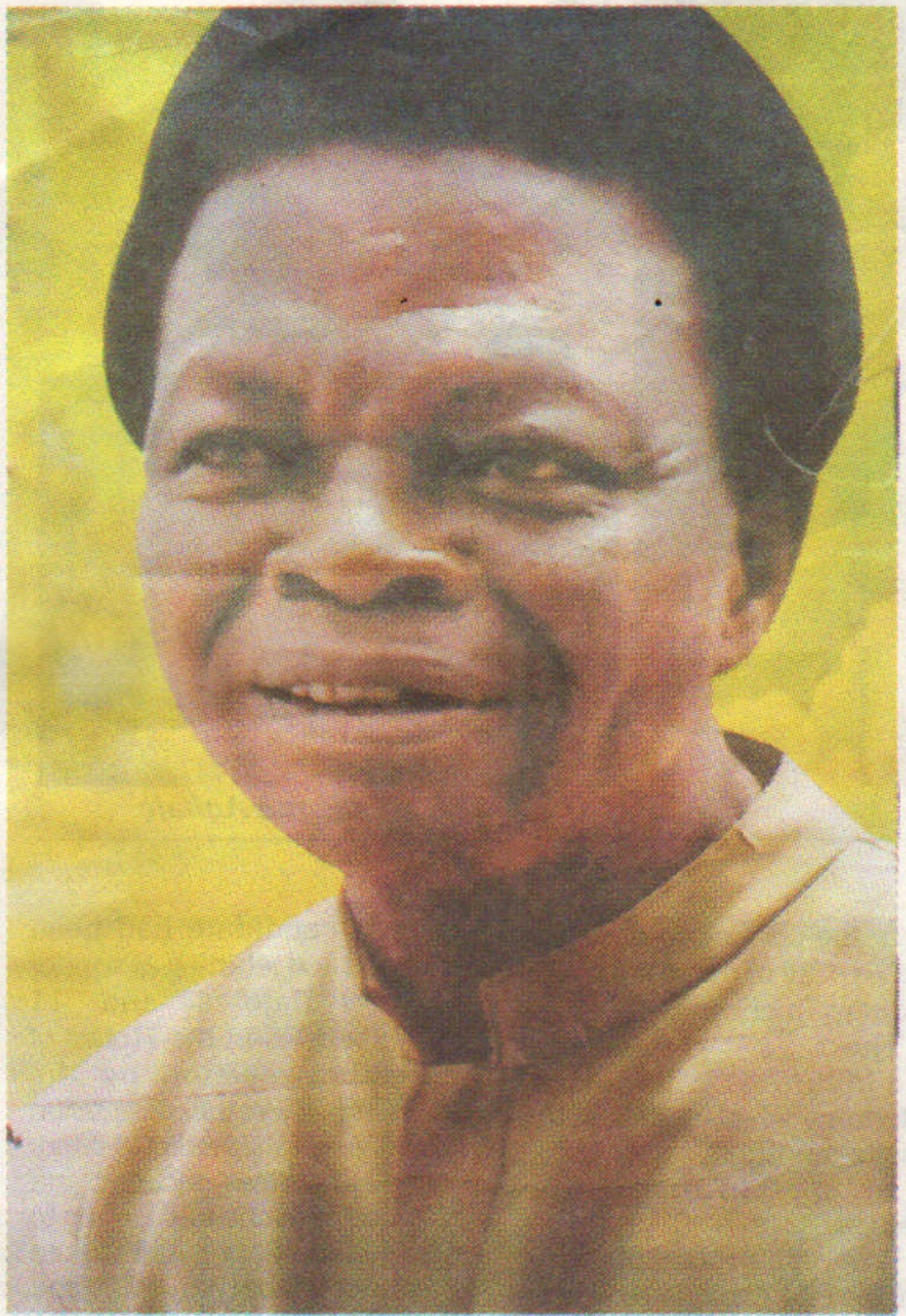
He was said to have made frantic efforts to ensure the woman was revived when she reportedly collapsed on the road and he quickly rushed him to the hospital.

It was gathered that, the alleged killer was apprehended, but, he was asked to go by the family.

According to the findings, when his family was contacted, they rejected the call to file charges against the alleged killer in connection with the accident.

Most of the family members, lived in Elegu Housing Estate in Abeokuta.

When contacted the Catholic Church



• James Ogundipe

described the death as very shocking.

The church, through one of his officials who pleaded anonymity because he was not in the position to speak to media on the issue, said it felt bad over the incident.

He said "Brother James was one of the cathicists in the Catholic Church in Abeokuta, he was very committed and hardworking.

"The Church felt devastated because of the death of cathicist James-Mary Oyelayo Ogundipe. He was our strong man and highly committed.

It was gathered that, his parish members felt bad after the news of his death. The church has been praying for him. He was said to always go from one parish to the other praying.

Some members from his church were said to have paid visits to his family.

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