

Vanguard Learning

FUOYE killings: Lawyer petitions Ekiti Assembly

•says Office of First Lady illegal

By Adesina Wahab

A LAWYER, Mr Tolulope Ayodele, has petitioned the Ekiti State House of Assembly over the September 20, 2019 killing of two students of the Federal University, Oye Ekiti by some policemen in the convoy of the wife of Ekiti State Governor, Mrs Bisi Fayemi.

In the petition, which was addressed to the Speaker, Rt. Hon. Funminiyi Afuye, a copy of which was made available to Vanguard, Ayodele is also calling on the state lawmakers to summon the Commissioner of Police, Ekiti State Command and the State Director, Department of State Services to fish out the perpetrators of the act and bring them to justice.

Reliefs being sought

Ayodele, in his petition, alleged that the death of two students of FUOYE, Oluwaseyi Kehinde and Joseph Okonofua, was caused by shooting from some policemen in Mrs Fayemi's convoy, and described the running of such a convoy illegal in the first instance.

"That the Noble House of Assembly should immediately sponsor a bill to declare the office of "First Lady" of Ekiti State as illegal, unlawful and inconsistent with the provisions of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (As

Amended 2010).

"That the Ekiti State House of Assembly under your watch and leadership, should summon the Commissioner of Police of Ekiti State to arrest, investigate and prosecute Erelu Bisi Fayemi (Mrs) as injustice anywhere is injustice everywhere. And that the Commissioner of Police should also fish out the assailant, murderous policeman (men) among his men for proper prosecution.

"That as a matter of urgency, the House of Assembly should sponsor a Bill that will remove the office of "First Lady" as illegally being occupied by Erelu Bisi Fayemi (Mrs.) from public governance and no recognition must be thereto attached or accorded to it.

That the House should also constitute a committee which will investigate that matter as clearly stated above and the outcome of such investigation and recommendation therein be published and made public."

Office of First Lady illegal

The lawyer further postulated that going by the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, no recognition ought to be given the Office of the First Lady.

"Erelu Bisi Fayemi (Mrs.) was never appointed, elected, selected or voted for to hold a public office, conduct political meetings nor carry out any

official activity, then why going to a function with a convoy? On whose expense is the convoy? If there is going to be money disbursement at such function, who bears the loss? The State Government of Ekiti State or who?" he queried.

What led to the crisis

Recall that on that fateful day, students of FUOYE had in the morning demonstrated in the town to protest lack of electricity on campus and their hostels.

However, Mrs Fayemi, who was going round the state for some political consultation, arrived Oye Ekiti in the afternoon to meet some people in the town hall as scheduled.

Hearing that she was around, the students regrouped and besieged the hall in a bid to seek her attention.

It was in the melee that some students were shot, with two dying from their wounds and many others being injured.

The Chief Press Secretary to Governor Kayode Fayemi, Mr Yinka Oyeboode, issued a statement saying that it was the students who attacked Mrs Fayemi's convoy leading to the ugly incident.

He further pointed out that the issue of power supply was not in the purview of the state as private companies were now in charge.

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