

Ondo youths chase monarch out of palace over policeman's death

By Dayo Johnson

AKURE—THE traditional ruler of Aliu-Itaogbolu, the Ogbolu of Itaogbolu in Akure North council area of Ondo State, Oba Idowu Faborode, has been reportedly chased out of his palace by irate youths in the community.

The youths allegedly fingered the monarch in the death of a policeman identified as Ayo Oloyede.

Vanguard was informed that Oloyede, who was attached to the Anti-Cultism Unit of the state Police Command, died in an auto crash last Sunday.

Vanguard gathered that the deceased, who left the community for Akure to visit his mother, was involved in an accident on his way back to the community.

The commercial vehicle he boarded reportedly somersaulted several times between Itaogbolu and Odudu village.

The youths reportedly attributed the accident to some supernatural powers. They reportedly mobilised and chased the traditional ruler out of the palace after they got the news of the policeman's death.

Sources in the community said the youth pointedly accused the monarch of failing to perform his functions as well as protect his subjects.

Vanguard could not reach the traditional ruler, who was said to have been whisked away to the neighbouring community by his family members.

Contacted, the state police spokesperson, Tee Leo Ikoro, said: "We got information that some youths in Itaogbolu went on the rampage and chased the monarch out of his palace.

"We don't understand what is the connection between a dead policeman in an accident and the monarch of the town.

Ikoro said, however, that "our men are on the ground to put the situation under control as we await details from our investigation.