

House of Assembly Election: PDP Chieftain slaps Ondo Commissioner

Prospective voters in Ido-Ani, a town in Ose local government area of Ondo State were on Tuesday morning shell-shocked as they watched in awe as a chieftain of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Mr Denis Alonge slapped the State Information Commissioner, Mr Ranti Akerele.

Alonge, the immediate past Chairman of the Ose Local Government Council under the Olusegun Agagu administration and an indigene of Afo town, had attempted to ferry policemen to be posted to the town (Afo) on electoral duties in his personal vehicle from the Divisional Police Station in Ido-Ani, a decision which the Information Commissioner opposed as unethical.

It was this attempt by the Commissioner to protest the use of Alonge's private car to carry the policemen by Alonge when he as a PDP chieftain had a stake in the election that resorted in Alonge dealing a slap on Akerele, who incidentally hailed from Ido-Ani for the affront.

Interestingly, this scenario took place in the presence of the Divisional Police Officer, Mr. Rafiu Adebayo.

In an interview with reporters, Mr Akerele expressed surprise at the assault saying it was unwarranted adding that he kept his cool in the face of the assault because members of the PDP in the State were still smarting from the heavy losses they have been receiving in the State in all the previous elections.

“I have reported the assault to the police and am sure that they will do the right thing. Politics of bitterness, of assaults and belly-aching should be a thing of the past. It shouldn't be a do-or-die affair and the likes of Alonge should learn from the current wind of positive democracy blowing not only through the country but the whole world at large,” he stated.

Efforts to get Mr Denis Alonge at his Afo country home to state why he assaulted the Commissioner proved abortive as he was said to have gone underground for fear of being arrested while his telephone set was equally switched off.