

I feel incomplete without my twin brother — Akpabio's late escort rider's sibling

December 28, 2025 12:00 am



| By Ayoola Olasupo

Hassan Ibrahim, twin brother of a 60-year-old escort rider attached to Senate President Godswill Akpabio, who died in a tragic road accident while on duty, speaks with AYoola OLASUPO on the circumstances of the crash, the family's grief, and their appeal for government support

What is your relationship with the deceased person?

He was my twin brother, and I was the one who went ahead to bury him in the village. His full name was Hussaini Ibrahim. As twins, we were very popular because many people knew us together.

Where are the two of you from?

We are from Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State. In our place, when a man dies, his wife is expected to mourn her husband and not speak to the public for three months or 90 days. She will be inside the room without coming out for that period.

How old was Hussaini before he died?

We were born in 1965, so he was 60 years old.

What kind of job was your brother doing before he died?

We are police officers. He was an escort rider, and he held the rank of a Deputy Superintendent of Police before the accident occurred.

For how long had he been an escort rider?

I think he had been working as a police officer for almost 35 years now. We've been doing escort riding for a while now, and we do not have any other job aside from that. We've been riding at the National Assembly for a long time since the time of Ibrahim Babangida, Atiku Abubakar, and even Senator Bukola Saraki.

When did he start working as an escort rider for the Senate President Godswill Akpabio?

I can't really say exactly when he started working for him until I confirm that. But I know that it's been a while now.

How did the family hear about his death?

The family is currently not happy about the incident, but the National Assembly has already sent a condolence letter to us, and a 10-man delegation was also sent to visit us. But the family believes that God knew about what happened, and when it is time for someone destined to die, it will surely happen.

I was the one who informed other family members about what happened. Someone called me and said my brother travelled to Ibadan in Oyo State, where they went to escort Senator Akpabio from the airport.

When his colleague called, he asked me to start coming to the scene and informed me that Hussaini had just had an accident, and that someone from their protocol unit was with him.

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I was also told that he had been admitted to the emergency department in a hospital. Immediately, I called our family in the village to inform them that my brother had died.

Can you describe how the accident happened?

Based on what people told me, it was at the Otedola Bridge while they were travelling to Oyo State. A vehicle was on the right side, and they went to buy fuel. After the security pilot car, he joined them in blocking the road, and was signalling to his colleagues at the filling station to come out.

A bus had already stopped for them, but a truck suddenly hit the bus from the front, and before my brother could look back, the bus also hit him. That was how the accident happened.

Was the truck driver arrested?

Of course, the drivers were arrested and taken to the police station, where they wrote statements.

When exactly was your brother buried?

The accident happened on Sunday, December 21, 2025, and we buried him on Monday, December 22, 2025.

How has his death affected the family so far?

This has really affected the family because he was the one taking care of them. He had two wives and four children.

Is it true that the Senate President offered jobs to some of the family members?

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I also heard something like that, but we've not received the appointment letter yet.

What support does the family want from the government or relevant agencies?

We want full support concerning the employment promise. Also, when their representatives came here, I told them that the incident had already happened, but they should always remember the family.

As his brother, which of his memories did you cherish most?

As twins, people always saw us together, and now everywhere I go, people will know that my brother is late. People know us very well and seeing me only will raise some questions from them because they will always ask about my brother. That is because some of them have not even heard about what happened.

Secondly, my brother and I liked doing things together, but it remains only me now. That alone makes me weak, seriously. I'm not in the right position to make demands from the Federal Government, but I'm only appealing to them to do something we can use to take care of the children. I'm just begging the government to do something for the family.