

Pedestrian killed in Ogun hit-and-run

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File Copy: New Ogun State Police Command, Public Relations Officer, Babaseyi Oluseyi

Favour Abalaka and Jessica John

An unidentified man was killed in a hit-and-run accident on Wednesday at the Magboro end of the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway.

PUNCH Metro learnt that the incident occurred at about 11 am.

The victim was reportedly attempting to cross the highway when a vehicle, said to be travelling at high speed, knocked him down.

An eyewitness, identified simply as Grace, said the impact threw the victim into the air, after which a commercial bus coming behind also ran over him.

She said the man died on the spot.

“The man was crossing the highway around 11am when a Sienna vehicle hit him. The impact threw him up, and a commercial bus coming behind also hit him.

“People quickly ran to pick him up and move him off the expressway so that other vehicles would not run over him again. But he died instantly. The painful thing is that the vehicle that hit him did not stop. The driver just sped away after the accident,” she said.

Grace also alleged that officials of the Federal Road Safety Corps drove past the scene without stopping to pick up the body.

“Even a road safety vehicle passed here, and they did not stop. I think they were heading somewhere because they were moving in a group. I don’t think they were from this branch. Up till now, the police have not been here,” she added.

Another eyewitness, identified simply as Anas, said the victim’s body was left on the spot for hours without medical attention.

He also claimed that a police vehicle drove past the scene without stopping.

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“A police van also drove by and did not stop. When people asked why an ambulance was not called, the truth is that we do not know how to reach an ambulance here, and nobody around had a car to rush him to the hospital,” he said.

He added that many residents gathered at the scene shortly after the accident.

Another witness, who preferred to be identified only as Ore, said identifying the victim had become difficult because his belongings were missing.

According to Ore, the victim’s phone and wallet were taken amid the crowd that gathered around him after the crash.

“It is hard to identify him because when the accident happened, a lot of people gathered. Before you could say anything, his phone and wallet were already gone.

“So there is nothing on him now that anyone can use to identify him or contact his family. He has been lying here since morning, and it is not good,” Ore said.

The corpse was still lying unattended at the scene as of the time our correspondent left the area.

When contacted, the spokesperson for the Ogun State Police Command, Oluseyi Babaseyi, said in a WhatsApp message that action was being taken to evacuate the body.

The incident is one of several hit-and-run crashes reported along the busy Lagos-Ibadan Expressway.

PUNCH Metro reported in January that a body believed to be a person knocked down by a vehicle was found by the roadside along the expressway days after the accident occurred. Residents said the victim had been hit by a vehicle, but the body was left unattended and later discovered in a mutilated state.