

Senator Albishir dies in road accident

From Lawan Danjuma Adamu & Isah Muhammad Inuwa, Kano

FORMER governorship candidate of the People Democratic Party (PDP) in 2011 governorship election in Yobe State Senator Shehu Usman Albishir has died in a fatal road accident.

The politician was on his way to Abuja when the incident occurred around 10am at Ciromawa town, about 50 kilometres from Kano yesterday. His driver and orderly survived the mishap.

Daily Trust gathered that the incident happened when Volkswagen Golf car coming from Zaria skidded to the other lane of the dual carriage way

and rammed into the senator's Range Rover jeep, forcing it to summersault continuously.

Road safety officials said the deceased was flung out of the swirling vehicle. Kabiru Yusuf Nadabo, Head of Operations of Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) in Kano, said the senator sustained a head injury that resulted to his eventual death.

The officer told Daily Trust that the vehicle that caused the crash had a burst tyre, following which the driver lost control and hit Albishir's car head-on. He said the deceased's vehicle was not on high speed when the incident occurred. "He was flung out when the vehicle started somersaulting, injuring his head. We rescued him to Kura General Hospital, where

he was confirmed dead," said Yusuf.

Albishir's driver and orderly survived the incident, while three other passengers in the Golf car died later, according to the road safety officer.

Alhaji Ibrahim Nabello, who was an associate of the deceased, told Daily Trust that Albishir intended to go to Abuja after a planned stopover for a meeting with the deputy governor of Kaduna State.

"We were to meet with Kaduna State deputy governor and he asked us to go ahead and finalize arrangement for the meeting before he comes. On reaching Kaduna Government House, I phoned to tell him the deputy governor had postponed the

meeting to the next day. When I called back again 15 minutes later, someone said they were involved in an accident", he said.

An eyewitness, Muhammad Yahaya, said the senator did not die at the scene, but on the way to the hospital. "He was bleeding from the nose when rescued, while his driver was trapped and we had to force the door open to remove him. The driver sustained a fracture in his hand," he said.

Meanwhile, the remains of late Senator Usman Albishir was buried yesterday evening at Dandolo Cemetery in Goron Dutse area of Kano metropolis, after the Muslim janaza prayer at his Bompai GRA residence in Kano.

Hundreds of people thronged

the late senator's residence before his burial. Among the dignitaries who attended the prayers for the deceased were former Head of State, retired General Abdussalami Abubakar, deputy governor of Kano State, Abdullahi Umar Ganduje, former governor of Kano State, Malam Ibrahim Shekarau, Alhaji Salihu Sagir Takai, Alhaji Saleh Jambo and Alhaji Aminu Babba Dan Agundi, among others.

Alhaji Shehu Usman Albishir is survived by seven children, Kasim, Mohammed, Sadiq, Mariya, Nana, Basira and Umm, as well as a wife.

Governor Ibrahim Gaidam, in his condolence, described Senator Usman Albishir's death as a great loss.