

## One killed as vehicle plunges into Kano river

Written by Lawan Danjuma Adamu, Kano  
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A vehicle fell off the Gadan Tambarawa bridge, which is on the outskirts of Kano city yesterday, killing one person and injuring another. There were two people in the car when the incident occurred.

The vehicle, a Honda Hala, somersaulted on the long bridge after the driver made an attempt to dodge a motorcyclist who crossed the expressway, Daily Trust learnt.

Witnesses said the car made a loud sound before crashing down into the river below. Our correspondent who visited the scene of the incident reports that the vehicle was extensively damaged. He also reports that several people visited the scene to catch a glimpse of the mangled car lying in the water underneath the bridge.

The driver of the car was already dead at the time sympathizers, mostly sand diggers and fishermen went into the river to rescue them, according to witnesses. The other occupant who survived the crash was immediately rushed to the hospital.

Residents said yesterday's accident was at that same spot in less than one year.

"The last incident before this one occurred two months after the first one. A man and his family of six were killed after their vehicle fell into the same bridge in the second accident," the witness said.

It would be recalled that in 2005, a luxury bus travelling to Maiduguri from Lagos fell off the same Gadan Tamburawa bridge killing 56 passengers.

Residents told Daily Trust that accidents are prevalent on the Kano-bound lane of the bridge because of its poor metal banister, which is broken at several points.

"Vehicles have veered off the other lane on several occasions, but they were always stopped from plunging into river by the concrete banister," said Saleh, a witness.

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Meanwhile, the head of operations of the Federal Road Safety Commission in Kano, Kabiru Yu-suf Dandago, said the survivor had been admitted at the hospital, adding that the incident was caused by careless driving by the motorcyclist.

“It was in the process of avoiding the motorcyclist that the vehicle somersaulted into the river. We are yet to ascertain the identity of the deceased,” he said.