



## Nigeria: Trailer Crushes Four Inside Jos Central Mosque

BY HASSAN IBRAHIM, 30 MARCH 2013

Jos — Four people were crushed to death yesterday when a trailer crashed into the Jos Central Mosque shortly after Juma'at prayers. An elderly person was also injured in the accident.

About 40 minutes after worshipers had finished Juma'at prayers, 22-year-old Dauda Aminu, who later introduced himself as the trailer's conductor, said he removed the vehicle from the garage and was taking it to park at Layin Zana area, near the mosque, when he noticed that its gear was failing.

He said while driving down Enugu Road and attempting to cross the mosque's junction, he lost control and saw the trailer as well as himself inside the mosque.

Aminu told Weekly Trust that he decided to drive the trailer after calling his boss (the driver) severally without getting through to him.

He pleaded in tears with the families of the victims to forgive him, saying it was not deliberate.

Apart from the dead, all of them beggars, and injured, the trailer destroyed the mosque's wall around the conference hall.

Responding to the incident, Chief Imam of Jos, Sheikh Balarabe Dawud, consoled the families of those who lost their lives and cautioned owners of heavy duty vehicles to stop giving immature persons such vehicles to drive.

"We observe that the tragic event has been ordained to happen by the Almighty Allah and we are not suspecting anyone or organization of any evil intention for now and we have handed over the driver of the trailer to the police for onward investigation," he said.

On his part, the Chairman of Plateau State Lepers Association, Ibrahim Nuhu, who lost four members, described the incident as a calamity destined to happen and prayed that the Almighty Allah will grant the deceased persons eternal rest.

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