



TRAILER CRUSHES CYCLIST TO DEATH AT ABAJI



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An unidentified motorcycle rider was crushed to death yesterday morning, while his passenger was seriously injured by an over-speeding trailer at Abaji round-about, on the Abuja-Lokoja highway.

A witness said the incident happened around 8:43 am, when the cyclist, who carried a passenger, was crossing to the next lane and the trailer with registration number KMC 400 XC, loaded with cement ran over him.

"The cyclist might not be an okada operator because it seems they were returning from a journey," he said.

Our reporter, who arrived the scene shortly after the incident, saw the remains of the cyclist in pieces, while the passenger he carried was severely injured. Officials of the Abaji unit command of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) came to remove the injured victim to the hospital.

City News observed that the driver of the truck only stopped some few meters away from the scene after some angry mob chased him with their motorcycle. They dragged him down from the truck in an attempt to lynch him.

A witness told City News that the driver was promptly rescued by the combined team of the police and men of the Nigerian Security and Civil Corps (NSCDC) that rushed to the scene. The Abaji Divisional Police Officer, Mr. A.S Mai Dabino, who spoke with our reporter at the scene, confirmed the incident, saying the driver of the trailer was rescued from an angry mob, which attempted to lynch him and set the truck ablaze.

"If not because I immediately mobilized some of my men that joined me at the scene, they would have lynched the driver. But we are trying to see how we will move the truck to the police station," he said.

Reacting, Chairman of the Motorcycle Riders Union of Nigeria in the area, Yusuf Aliyu Tsado, decried the incessant killing of their members when crossing the highway.

He blamed the construction company handling the dualization part of the road for not constructing a pedestrian bridge or speed bumps at the roundabout.

"There is no day that passes without vehicles or trucks knocking down okada riders, especially on Abaji market days. So, I am appealing to the company to see the need to construct a pedestrian bridge like that of Gwagwalada, or erect a speed bumps to save lives of people and okada riders on this road," he pleaded.

When contacted, Abaji unit commander of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), Moses Audu, confirmed the accident, saying the corpse of the cyclist has

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