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Two pupils feared killed in Ado-Ekiti auto crash*From Ifedayo Sayo, Ado-Ekiti*

IT was a black Monday in Ado-Ekiti, Ekiti State capital, yesterday as a lorry crushed to death two pupils of the same parents.

The incident, which occurred at Irona area of the town, drew the sympathy of many residents who came out to see the gory scene. Many of them, including market women, motorists, motorcyclists, teachers, fellow pupils and other passers-by, could not control their emotion after seeing the blood of the victims spilled all over the ground.

An eye witness account said the victims, Tope and Dayo Afolabi, had just emerged from their school, St. Thomas Aquinas Primary School in Irona and were in the process of crossing to the other side of their school gate when the driver of the truck reportedly lost control and smashed them against the wall.

The accident, which was blamed on brake failure, sent the entire family members of the victims who were living a stone throw from the scene of the accident into mourning.

Many parents whose children attend St. Thomas' Primary School and nearby Ben Folarin College rushed to the scene of the accident as the news of the incident spread to other parts of the town, to ascertain whether their children were affected or not.

However, the mother of the deceased children, who it was gathered, got wind of the sad news while breast-feeding her new baby delivered 10 days ago, fainted on being told that her children were the victims of the accident. She lost her husband about one month ago.

Angry mob would have set the lorry ablaze but for the intervention of the Deputy Governor, Sikiru Lawal, who was passing by and stopped to appeal to the people after, which he sympathised with the school officials and the bereaved mother.

Lawal appealed to them to allow the police conduct investigations into the incident and not to take the law into their hands.

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