

TheMetroSection

Another tragedy at Oshodi, Lagos

• Truck crushes five to death, injures scores in Oshodi accident

By Isaac Taiwo

I was another black day yesterday at Oshodi motor park when a truck belonging to a new generation church carrying sand rammed into commuter buses waiting to passengers at the park as well as hawkers, killing, at least, five people and injured scores.

The Law enforcement agents including Police, Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA), Kick Against Indiscipline (KAI) officials among others were there trying to curtail the situation as well as controlling the large crowd that gathered at the scene.

The vehicle was believed to have had a break failure, and in the process hit four other vehicles including a Sports Utility Vehicle (SUV) with Registration Number KSF 581 AU, a Nissan van with the Registration Number BDG166KF, an LT Commuter van with the Registration Number XM759EPE and another LT Commuter van with the Registration Number XX609EST. Ladies handbags, clothes, soft drinks, snacks among others littered the entire vicinity.

The incident caused a traffic snarl on the expressway as sympathisers gathered in to catch a glimpse of the situation. Some of them said the driver could have hit the culvert or a pole instead of running into a park, where people had gone to board vehicles to their different destinations.

Some also absolved him, saying in such a situation, one would have been confused, not really knowing what to do.

The District Police Officer (DPO) at the scene declined to talk to the press on the account that he was busy sorting things out.

However, Chairman, Oshodi-Isolo Local Government, Mr. Bolaji Ariyo, who later came to the scene gave account of what happened to the media:

"On my getting here, from my investigation, I found out that a truck fully loaded with sand unfortunately, rammed into vehicles and passengers who were standing at the park, including traders after the break failed.

"So, the main cause of the accident was that the break of the truck failed as it was descending the bridge, which resulted into casualties. "I learnt that a pregnant woman and her kid were involved but I am yet to get to the hospital where the injured were taken to, to see the victims.

"I was, however, told that those that were injured had been carried to the General Hospital while the dead had been deposited into the



The scene of the accident...



Sympathisers at the scene of the accident...yesterday

PHOTOS: ISAAC TAIWO

mortuary," he said.

Ariyo advised Lagosians to always be at alert anywhere they were and be conscious of any

hazard that could take place any time, "though it is God who protects".

Military commandant tasks officers on retirement