

Angry youths lynch truck driver, conductor for crushing five pupils to death

A TRUCK driver and a conductor have been killed by angry youths after their water tanker crushed five school children to death in Oshiri, Ebonyi State. The pupils were identified as Davis Nworie, aged six; Prosper Ogudu, seven; Tochukwu Nwankwo, six; Ada Igwe, seven; and little Peace Ifeanyichukwu, aged three. The deceased were returning from school when the tragedy struck.

Sources said the driver of the water tanker after committing the crime, didn't stop and the action angered youths in the area, who went after him, and lynched both the driver and the conductor at Onicha Igbeze, a nearby community after Oshiri.

Spokesperson for the Ebonyi State Police Com-

mand, DSP Loveth Odah, who confirmed the incident in a statement yesterday, said the accident happened at Onu Nworiegu in Oshiri, Onicha Local Government Area of the state on Tuesday.

"The DPO of Onicha got a distress call that an accident happened, killing five school children and angry youths attacked the driver and killed him. The driver, Ewa Innocent, is from Ameka Ikwo, while the conductor, Ojim Danis, is from Agharazo, Iyiemgu Izzi.

"It was gathered that the water truck allegedly belongs to a company known as C-Sagas Project Nigeria Limited. The children from Amaokpara village in Oshiri were returning home from St Michaels School

when the truck ran over them on the road.

"However, the driver fled immediately after the incident, but youths of the area chased and caught up with the truck at Onicha Igbeze, a neighbouring community and lynched him and his conductor.

"The bus driver and conductor were confirmed dead by a doctor in the hospital and their bodies have been deposited at Onicha General Hospital," she said.

She urged motorists to drive more carefully during the 'ember' months.

"I commiserate with the family of the deceased and pray God grants them the strength to bear the loss. I also want to warn road users to drive with care, because we have lost a lot this year," she added.