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Tragic Sallah: Monarch dies, reckless driver flings two passengers into Lagos lagoon

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• LASTMA rescues victims

It was a tragic Ed-el Fitri celebration, yesterday, as a Lagos monarch, Oba Kabiru Agbabiaka, The Osolo of Isolo, Adeola Olushi III, died minutes after observing the Eid prayers.

He was known as one of the most powerful monarchs in Lagos.

Chairman of Isolo Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Olasoji Adebayo, who confirmed his death in a statement, however, did not disclose the cause of his death.

The Guardian learnt that the deceased monarch, who spent 20 years on the throne, was buried at about 4:00p.m. yesterday at his palace, 3/5 Akinbaya Street, Isolo, according to Islamic rites.

The statement reads: "I have the instruction of the Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu, to formally announce the passing of the paramount ruler of Isolo Kingdom, Oba



The late Oba Kabiru Agbabiaka

Kabiru Agbabiaka, Adeola Olushi III, Wednesday April 10, 2024. He was aged 64."

IN RELATED development, two passengers were allegedly flung into the lagoon yesterday, following a solo auto crash involving an 18-seater bus with registration number FKJ 872 YA at the recently renovated Third Mainland Bridge by Adeniji Adele axis inward Lagos Island.



Scene of the accident

The bridge was reopened to traffic six days ago after about two months of repair works.

The Guardian gathered that the vehicle, which was at a very high speed, lost control, swerved off the road and hit bridge rails, thereby causing two passengers to be flung off into the lagoon.

Many passengers also sustained several degrees of injuries in the incident.

It was learnt that yesterday's incident was not the first since the bridge was reopened as a minor accident occurred on the Island-Mainland side of the bridge the day it was reopened.

During yesterday's incident, the Marine Police swiftly moved in to search for the victims, an adult male and female, while the crashed vehicle was towed to

Adeniji Adele Police Station.

Some injured passengers were taken to the General Hospital, Odan, Lagos, while others with minor injuries dropped off on their way to the hospital.

Speaking on the incident, General Manager of Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA), Mr. Olalekan Bakare-Oki, warned motorists against over speeding and ensure their vehicles are properly checked, including the braking system before embarking on any journey within or outside the state.

He said the agency operatives rescued 18 victims from the accident.

Director, Public Affairs and Enlightenment Department of LASTMA Mr. Adebayo Taofiq, who confirmed this in a statement, said the passengers were rescued by LASTMA officials from Zone (1), Lagos Island.

He said: "Preliminary investigations revealed that a 20 fully loaded LT Commercial Bus (FKJ 872 YA)

while on a high speed lost control as a result of a brake failure and was about to fall inside the lagoon before it was stopped by the rail of Third Mainland Bridge.

"While the truck driver ran away after the accident, Police officers from Adeniji Adele Police Station provided security backup during the rescue of the seriously injured passengers.

"LASTMA Ojo-Oniyun Olamide (One Alpha, Zone 1 Lagos Island), who led the recovery operations, confirmed that his team immediately evacuated the LT Commercial bus off the road for an unhindered free vehicular movement.

"Meanwhile, the Marine Police rescue team are already inside lagoon on search and rescue mission to see if any of those passengers fell inside the lagoon.

"Lagos State Commissioner of Police, Lagos State Fire and Rescue Services and other emergency stakeholders visited the scene of the accident."

Amotekun arrests 14 suspected