Truck driver, conductor escape lynching in Aba

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A truck driver and his conductor yesterday escaped being lynched by a mob after hitting a trader on the Aba-Owerri Road.

The woman died in hospital.

It was gathered that sympathisers took the woman to a private hospital, but she was rejected.

According to sources, the situation would have degenerated into chaos, if not for policemen and soldiers.

The whereabouts of the driver and his conductor were unknown last night.

An eyewitness, simply identified as Clement, said the deceased sold tomatoes at the Good Morning Market in Aba South.

Clement said: "The accident happened around 5 am. The woman was trying to cross the road when the speeding trailer knocked her down. The driver ran away but sympathisers quickly rushed the woman to the hospital."

Unconfirmed reports said the driver and his assistant were taken to the Aba Command after police and soldiers calmed the situation.

Police spokesman Geoffrey Ogbonna could not be reached for confirmation.