Two health workers, one other die in road accident



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Two ad-hoc female health workers and a man were killed yesterday in a road accident on LASU Road in Alimosho Local Government Area (LGA), Lagos.

The accident occurred around Alhaji Ede Bus Stop near the General Hospital, Igando at about noon.

Eyewitnesses said they were hit by a driver who was at high speed.

Three others – two ad-hoc health workers and another man – were injured. They were rushed to the General Hospital for treatment.

The four ad-hoc health workers were Barakat Usman, Latifat Akanni, Fatiah Dada and Chukwuneka Chibuike.

The two others were one Bashorun Olorunfemi and an unnamed man.

The ad-hoc health workers were attached to Igando-Ikotun Local Council Development Area (LCDA).

The health workers, tagged OBR Implementers, were returning from the third-day Poliovirus Outbreak Response Assessment (OBRA) exercise.

The four-day exercise, it was learnt, commenced on Saturday and will be wrapped up tomorrow.

The OBR Implementers were expected to be paid N6,000 after the exercise.

An eyewitness told The Nation that the driver veered off the road and hit the persons on the pedestrian lane.

"The driver was speeding and he couldn't properly control the steering when he suddenly found oil on the road.

"As he drove on the oil, it became slippery. In a bid to control the steering, the vehicle veered off the road and hit the people. They all landed inside the gutter," he said.

The Nation Correspondent met a crowd of wailing sympathisers, while others were bringing the victims out of the gutter.

Many others were seen taking pictures and recording videos. The Nation Correspondent quickly mobilised some tricycle (Keke Marwa) riders to assist the victims to the hospital.

On getting to the hospital, the medical personnel quickly attended to the victims.

Latifat Akanni was said to have died before reaching the hospital. Barakat Usman and a man who sustained head injuries died shortly after.

Among the early callers were Mrs Bankole, a medical officer in the council. She rallied around the victims and made calls to her bosses in the office including the council chairman, Comrade Lasisi Akinsanya and his Vice.

Comrade Akinsanya, who led senior council officials to the hospital, commiserated with the families of the deceased and wished those injured a quick recovery.

He promised that the council would do all it could to give those injured the best of treatment.

The mother of Barakat Usman, a Niqobi, who arrived at the hospital with her husband, wept uncontrollably.

It was learnt she had already lost two elder siblings of the deceased.

She described the loss of her three eldest children as too much to bear.

According to her, the late Barakat's widower had travelled out of the country.

She added that Barakat was a fashion designer with three kids.

"How am I going to take care of her three kids? Oh, Allah! This is too much for me. Barakat must not die," she wailed, appealing to see the remains of her daughter.