

# Otedola Bridge fire: Two dead as victims count losses



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The **Lagos State Emergency Management Agency (LASEMA)** yesterday confirmed that two persons died and six others sustained injuries in the gas tanker explosion that occurred under the Otedola Bridge on Tuesday night.

It also confirmed that 12 vehicles, eight tricycles and a building were destroyed by the incident which happened around 8pm on Tuesday. The fire, which erupted after a tanker carrying gas fell, claimed lives and caused destruction.

One of the survivors, George Uchenna, a driver, narrated how he narrowly escaped death.

“I had parked with my boy when the tanker fell. We managed to run, but before then, about 10 bus drivers were at the scene, and sadly, all of them lost their lives,” he said.

Among the victims was a well-known mechanic, Baba Rotimi, who was working on a customer’s vehicle when the disaster struck.

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The fire spread rapidly, consuming vehicles, businesses, and nearby structures. A member of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG) Fulfillment Centre, Paul Samuel, confirmed that while their church building was not affected, the gate was damaged.

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A mechanic, Tosin, said: “The fire wouldn’t have gotten here, but a woman who cooks with gas due to the heat, her gas cylinder exploded. That explosion spread the fire, affecting four cars parked beside it.”

A passer-by expressed frustration at the sight. “People lost their lives and property, but scavengers are here, picking whatever they can sell. It’s painful to watch,” he said.

Commissioner for Transportation, Lagos State, Mr Oluwaseun Osiyemi, said in a statement: “We deeply regret the gas tanker explosion on Otedola Bridge, which caused widespread damage and disruption of activities.

“Our thoughts are with those affected, and we commend the swift response of emergency services working tirelessly to manage the aftermath.

“This incident reinforces the urgent need for stricter safety protocols for heavy-duty vehicles.

“We call on transport operators to uphold the highest safety standards and cooperate with government efforts to safeguard lives and property.”