

Metro

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... crime, security, court

One person dead, others injured as train derails in Lagos

TOLA ADENUBI - LAGOS

NIGERIAN Railway Corporation (NRC) has confirmed that one person died at an early hour train derailment on Thursday at Ashade railway crossing in Agege, Lagos State.

Lagos Railway District Manager (RDM), Mr Jerry Ochi, told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) on Thursday that the victim died at the NRC Hospital at Ebute Meta while receiving treatment.

"Efforts have been put in place to restore normalcy at the scene of the incident," he said.

According to him, the NRC officials have been working to re-rail the train and repair the track.

The RDM said the operation would start immediately the tracks were fixed.

"We will start our operation in two hours time, when the affected train is re-railed and the track is repaired.

"Our operations continue today because everything is under control; and the vehicular traffic jam at the scene of event has been cleared," he said.

Scores of passengers reportedly escaped death when a mass transit shuttle train derailed at the Ashade railway crossing on the Agege-Ikeja corridor in Lagos.

The incident, which was said to have occurred at about 7.15 a.m., leaving some of the passengers injured.

Some personnel from various security agencies immediately cordoned off the area, to maintain law and order, while the injured were rushed to hospitals in the neighbourhood for treatment.

Speaking with the *Nigerian Tribune*, a passenger who was on board the train explained that three coaches filled to capacity by derailed and fell at Ashade level crossing, when the early morning train was on its way from

Agege to Ikeja train station.

The passenger, who gave his name as Simeon Alabi, stated that, "we had already departed the Agege train sta-

tion when we heard a bang on the walkway beside the rail tracks.

"The train stopped; and many of us rushed down,

only to discover that three coaches earlier linked to the moving train had fallen. The fallen coaches were filled with passengers, while some

people also hanged on the train.

"However, some of the injured has been rushed to a nearby hospital."



The scene of train derailment in Lagos State. PHOTO: SYLVESTER OKORUWA

Police declare Seigo wanted for alleged Two men in police net for allegedly killing wives