during the Northern Traditional Rulers' Council meeting in Kaduna, on Monday. Photo: NAN

## Car thief crushes pregnant woman, motorcyclist in Delta Woman crushed to death in Ekiti

## From Alphonsus Agborh and Yomi Ayeleso

A pregnant woman and a motorcyclist were on Sunday run over in Issele Uku in Aniocha North Local Government Area of Delta State by a suspected car thief who was escaping with a stolen Peugeot car.

The suspect was said to be on top speed along the road in the town when he ran over the victims, killing them on the spot.

The owner of the stolen car, one Martin, narrated that: "I was trying to look for one or two passengers to Asaba, as I used to do before, leaving the car key in the ignition when the suspect suddenly entered the car and sped off

"Before I realised what was happening, somebody just jumped inside the car and sped off, so, I stopped an okada and instructed him to go after the car.

"The man was on top speed, trying to escape when he hit an okada man who was carrying a pregnant woman and they both died on the spot. When we got to the scene, I we was received the hospital. When we got to the scene, I we was received the hospital. If the hospital tified as Toy on Monday.

"As people came to the scene and saw that the pregnant woman and the okada rider had died, they pounced on him before the police came and rescued him."

It was gathered that the suspect was later taken to a nearby hospital for treatment.

When contacted on Monday, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Onome Onovwakpoyeya, told the *Nigerian Tri*bune that she was yet to get details of the incident from Issele-Uku divisional police station.

A police source at the division, however, said the suspect had been arrested, but was receiving treatment at the hospital.

Meanwhile, a woman identified as Toyin Omolewa was on Monday crushed to death while trying to cross the Ado/lworoko dual carriageway Road in Irasa-Ekiti, a farmstead in the Ado-Ekiti, the state capital.

An eyewitness confirmed that the accident involved a Volvo S40 saloon car with registration number, KTU 280 DS, allegedly owned by a personnel of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC).

Having hit the victim and overrun her, the car, according to the eyewitness, also somersaulted as the front tyres and windscreen got damaged

in the process.

The severity of the accident was such that it severed one of the legs of the victim from its body.

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When contacted, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), ASP Sunday Abutu, who confirmed the death of the woman, said the command got information on the accident and quickly deployed its men in the area to calm down frayed nerves.

Abutu said some commuters rushed the accident victim to the hospital but was later confirmed dead.

He said: "The suspect who drove the car is currently in our custody."

Abutu further added that the body of the woman had been deposited in the morgue of the Ekiti State Teaching Hospital (EKSUTH), in Ado-Ekiti.

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