

Driver charged with killing nine-year-old girl

Tunde Odesola, Osogbo

A 28-year-old commercial bus driver, Sikiru Oyetunji, was arraigned at an Osogbo magistrate's court, on Tuesday, for allegedly crushing to death a nine-year-old girl, Esther John.

Members of the audience hissed and sighed when the court clerk, who read the charge sheet, stated that Oyetunji crushed to death the hapless girl.

The charge sheet further stated that the suspect drove a Toyota bus with number plate Osun XB 284 KNR, recklessly and this resulted in the avoidable death of the girl.

Also, the charge sheet

alleged that Oyetunji did not possess a driver's license, expatiating that the offence was committed on June 6, 2008, at Osunjela village along Ilesa Road.

Defence counsel, Mr S A Gbenle, pleaded with the court to admit Oyetunji to bail, saying that the court would be provided with reliable sureties.

Police prosecution, Corporal Emmanuel Abdullahi, said bail was at the discretion of the court.

The Magistrate, Mr Olapoju Akintayo, granted bail to the suspect in the sum of N20, 000 with two sureties even as he adjourned the case to July 14, 2008, for hearing.