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Truck crushes three pupils as containers kill lady

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Three pupils of St. Anne's Primary School, Okelewo, Abeokuta, Ogun State, were feared dead on Wednesday when a truck driver ran into the pupils, who were on their way to a summer school.

The accident occurred while they were crossing the recently dualised Lalubu Road in the town.

Our correspondent learnt that one of the pupils died on the spot, while two others died on their way to the Federal Medical Centre, Idi Aba.

The names of the victims could not be immediately ascertained.

An eyewitness told our correspondent on Wednesday that the truck, supplying sachet water, was on top speed and failed to obey the zebra crossing on the road a few metres away to the school's gate.

When our correspondent visited the school, some parents, teachers and sympathisers were seen discussing the incident, while others hurriedly withdrew their wards.

One of the teachers, however, denied that three pupils died.

The teacher, who craved anonymity for "administrative reasons," said only one of the pupils died on the spot while two others sustained serious injuries.

The state's Police Public Relations Officer Mr. Sunny Ubua, confirmed the incident, but declined to give the casualty figure.

The driver, who was said to have been rescued from a mob, had since been arrested and detained along with the truck at the Ibara police station.

In Lagos, it was grief and sorrow as a young lady was crushed to death by two containers which fell on her from a moving truck on Wednesday.

The accident occurred at Airport bus stop on Lagos-Abeokuta Expressway, about 3pm.

The lady was said to be riding on a motorcycle, popularly called okada, when a trailer carrying two containers negotiating a bend suddenly dropped its cargo on her.

The woman died immediately under the containers, while the okada rider, who tried to jump away had one of the legs completely cut off.

When our correspondents got to the scene around 3:30pm, the okada rider was said to have been rushed to the Lagos State University Teaching Hospital, Ikeja.

Policemen, soldiers from Ikeja Contonment with a heavy towing vehicle and officers of the Lagos State Traffic Management Agency and others were at the scene trying to turn the containers to recover the body of the lady and wreckage of the motorcycle from underneath it.

An eyewitness, Mr. Mathew Ebuloku, said that the driver and his assistant, fled on seeing the magnitude of the accident but one of them was apprehended.

Our correspondents saw part of the remains of the lady chopped into pieces as the soldiers tried to lift the two 40-feet containers.

The Mack trailer with registration number XN 982 SMK had an inscription, Joki Nigeria

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The containers were carrying blue drums said to contain chemicals used for manufacturing confectionery.

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