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Five persons feared dead in Lagos auto crash

By Success Nwogu

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Five people were feared dead in an auto crash at the Anthony Bus Stop end of Oshodi-Oworonshoki Road, Lagos on Saturday.

An eyewitness claimed that a team of Lagos State Transport Management Agency were evacuating a container when the driver of an oncoming petrol tanker lost control of the vehicle due to brake failure and crashed on the LASTMA team.

A motorcyclist, popularly called okada, and a female passenger were equally affected.

The mishap was said to have occurred about 8.32am. At About 2.00pm, the corpses of three persons were still trapped in the wreckage.

They were later removed by accident rescue and management agencies.

The accident caused a traffic gridlock on the road, forcing travellers to spend many hours on transit.

Sympathisers were seen weeping uncontrollably when SUNDAY PUNCH visited the scene about 2.30pm, while rescue operations were still in progress.

Speaking with newsmen, the Special Assistant to the Lagos State Governor on LASTMA Matters, Mr. Shola Giwa, advised motorists to always ensure fitness of their vehicles before embarking on a journey.

He gave an account of how the incident occurred:

"A trailer ran onto LASTMA team trying to evacuate a broken down container. The tanker exploded with PMS which is very volatile.

"Four people died on the spot. We rushed one of the victims to the Gbagada General Hospital, he died on getting there. I can confirm to you that five people died. Three of them are still under the trailer.

"An okada rider and lady passenger were involved in the accident. Accident management and rescue agencies responded promptly to the distress calls.

"Motorists, especially tanker and trailer drivers should always check the condition of their vehicle before they drive.

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