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Motorcyclist dies in storm

By Ademola Oni, Abeokuta, Published: Monday, 26 Apr 2010

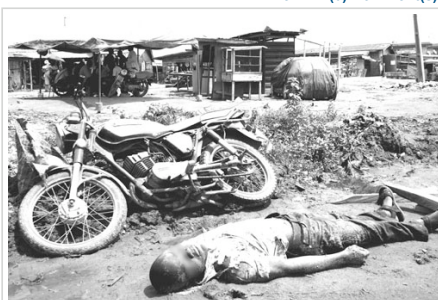
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A middle-aged commercial motorcyclist was allegedly struck to death during a **storm** on Saturday morning along the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway at **Ibafo, Ogun State**.

While an eyewitness account said the young man was riding on his bike under the rain when he was struck, another said he was pushing the motorcycle, which the witness said had a mechanical fault, at the time the incident occurred.

The motorcyclist, whose name could not be ascertained as at the time of this report, was allegedly 'struck by a powerful **storm**' at the Ibafo market, which equally serves as the motorpark.



An unidentified man who allegedly died in a **storm** during a heavy downpour, in Ibafo, **Ogun State**

The incident led to long hours of traffic logjam around the area as the body of the victim was not removed from the middle of the road. The policemen from the Ibafo police station located few metres from the scene; men of the Federal Road Safety Commission who were drafted to manage the traffic build-up around the scene, as well as other sympathisers, including the colleagues of the motorcyclist were said to have refused to touch the body.

Some of the people told our correspondents that they were afraid to touch the corpse because of the nature of the death of the man, suggesting that a sacrifice would have to be made before anyone could remove the body.

Officials of the FRSC and the **Ogun** Traffic Compliance and Enforcement Corps had hectic time controlling the traffic even as motorists and commuters were all struggling to catch a glimpse of the corpse.

The Sector Commander, FRSC, **Ogun State**, Mr. Dele Adigun, who spoke to our correspondent on Saturday, confirmed the death of the man, whose name could not be ascertained and the difficulties involved in evacuating the corpse.

Adigun said, "The man was killed by **storm** during the heavy rain and he died in the middle of the road; so the motorists found it difficult to move while the whole scene became very chaotic. Our men are doing their best to restore order but the situation is really bad by now.

"The police said they could not pick the body, so, we could not pick it either. I have informed my men to inform the Baale (Community head) in Asese to look for Sango worshippers, who would do what they should do and remove the man from the main road."

A medical who operates his hospital in Ibafo, on Sunday rejected the claim that the motorcyclist was killed by **storm** and that some unknown persons removed the corpse from the scene at night. "Which Sango killed the man? A powerful **storm** happened as the man was operating during the rain and he was struck by lightning. It was only because so many people know me here; I would have removed the body from the road" the man who pleaded for his name not to be mentioned said.

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