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## Sand dredger killed, policeman injured in Lagos explosion

FEBRUARY 19, 2013 BY ENIOLA AKINKUOTU • 66 COMMENTS



**A victim who sustained a serious injury in the explosion**  
| credits:

A sand dredger, Oladele Pius, was killed on Monday after an explosion under the FESTAC Link Bridge in Amuwo Odofin Local Government, Lagos State.

A police inspector, Akin Sunday, also sustained a serious injury in the explosion that caused panic in the area.

*PUNCH Metro* learnt that Pius, who was the branch Chairman of Sand Dredgers in the area, was torn apart.

According to eyewitnesses, rescue workers found it difficult to carry Pius' remains and had to use shovels to pack them in different

body bags.

They (eyewitness) said the inspector's legs were shattered, while his eyes and hands were affected by the explosion.

*PUNCH Metro* learnt that the explosion which occurred at about 12pm, caused panic because many of the residents and passersby had speculated that the explosion might have been as a result of terrorists' activities. They reportedly fled the area.

An eyewitness, who claimed to be the deceased's colleague, said he (deceased) resumed work in the morning under the bridge, and having parked his vehicle, made for his duty post.

The eyewitness said some moments later, the deceased received a telephone call following which he drove out.

He said the deceased returned accompanied by a policeman and then called one of his workers to buy a local gin which he shared with the policeman

He said the policeman was leaving the area when the explosion occurred, killing Oladele on the spot and seriously injuring the policeman who had moved a few steps away before the device, connected with dry cell batteries and wires, detonated.

Dogo, one of the deceased's workers, described him as a kind-hearted man, adding that he was survived by five children and two wives.

The policeman was however rushed to a nearby hospital

It could not be ascertained who planted the explosive, but the police denied that it was a bomb.

Commissioner of Police for the state Police Command, Umar Manko, said full investigation had commenced to unravel the cause of the explosion.

Manko however said preliminary investigation revealed that the explosion was caused by an electrical fault.

While briefing journalists at the state command headquarters on Monday, Manko urged residents not to panic but continue with their lawful businesses, assuring them that the police were committed to safety of lives and property in the state.

He said, "Contrary to people's fear that it was a bomb blast, it was a mere electrical fault at the Amuwo Odofin

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Bridge. Anti-bomb experts have been called in to assess the situation and I will be adequately briefed later.

"From the investigation so far, it has been revealed that it was neither a terrorist attack nor an act of Boko Haram. It was also not a bomb blast.

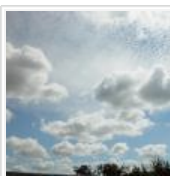
"It is not a question of letter bomb. This is not an incident that will attract fear. The state is not under any attack from anywhere."

The scene of the explosion had, however, been cordoned off by the Bomb Disposal Unit of the Nigeria Police and officials of the Lagos State Emergency Management Agency.

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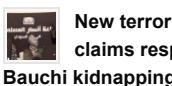
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Ben • 15 hours ago

The man in the picture "sustained a serious injury" from the blast, and how come he was not immediately rushed to the hospital. Rather people gathered to watch him cry in pain. This is something that should be addressed in Nigeria. Apart from the emergency services that should respond promptly, individuals should be made to understand what to do in the event of emergencies. The man did not require special medical expertise so as to be moved so should have been helped to the hospital since an ambulance may not arrive soon. What if this man, in the presence of all these people just lay down and died. I guess they would all have been surprised

17 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



Henry → Ben • 14 hours ago

A massive thank you Ben, i wish i know you in person. This is a bad culture in Nigeria. Even first aid or holding his body to reduce the bleeding.

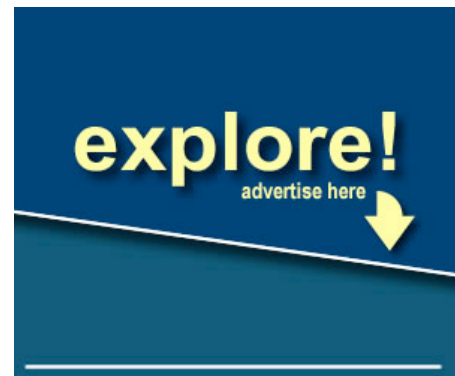
6 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



Lexis → Ben • 8 hours ago

I share your view Ben, a lot need to be done in this country.

3 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



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**dede rocs** → Ben • 5 hours ago

so shameful,Nigerians enjoy watching people in pains rather than rushing them to the hospital,or administering first aid.such an ignorant and dumb society.

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**Karis** → Ben • 7 hours ago

UNEMPLOYMENT IS ANOTHER CAUSE WHY AT ANY SLIGHTEST INCIDENT, YOU SEE THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE GATHER, THE LAST DANA PLANE CRASH PULLED UNIMAGINABLE CROWD. IF THESE PEOPLE WERE GAINFULLY EMPLOYED, SUCH UNHELPFUL CROWD WILL NOT GATHER AT SHORT NOTICE.

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**Patrick** → Ben • 2 hours ago

You help the man, and then when the police turn, up you are arrested as a suspect! Isn't that one of the reasons why people don't like to get 'Involved' ?

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**Bab** → Ben • 2 hours ago

Write your senators, representatives, legislators, councillors, governors and Mr. President Goodluck to gives us emergency medical services (EMS), often call prehospital care. That man needed immediate resuscitation by trained prehospital care provided, which the giant of Africa lacks. Nigeria is a waste pipe.

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**Axeman777** → Ben • 11 hours ago

They thought he was the bomber, thatz why they didnt help him

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**Menelik1** → Axeman777 • 2 hours ago

Even if he was the bomber, doesn't he deserve some help?

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**Lovely** → Ben • 13 hours ago

Its bad culture no doubt but our law enforcement personnel s and the hospital authorities needs to be properly inducted on this. A situation where by you help an accident victim only for the hospital to reject you and the victim or sending you to the police for one paper or another are the cause of thiz bad culture we now have in this country.

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**Kukere** → Ben • 13 hours ago

That is how far ignorance has led us.

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**abimbola kumapayi** • 15 hours ago

Electric blast strong enough to blow persons into pieces need to be examined properly. I am not saying its a bomb or anything near it but a balst that can shatter a person's leg beyond recognition should not have been alllowed to operate in a residential or commercial location.

We want peace in the whole country so terrorists should cease fire wherever they are, we are one people with one destiny as a nation.

One love!

Thank you

7 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**chris Gabriel** → abimbola kumapayi • 3 hours ago

I live barely 100m from the site of the incidence. If that explosion was not bomb, then our brothers in the BH infested areas (and experience bombings) are in real trouble.

I was home and the explosion rattled the whole environment.

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Axeman777** • 11 hours ago

Yuroba people should welcome their boko haram brodas to lagos with open arms

4 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**femi** → Axeman777 • 6 hours ago

**@Axeman777** i am sure you don't stay in Lagos otherwise you should know that it is your igbo brothers and sisters that populate that part of the city. your case is just like that of the man that stood away from the market and decided to throw a heavy stone into the market but unknown to him his relation was in the market that day and the stone hit his person in the head and the person died on the spot. that is for the wise, though. i doubt your intelligence to carry that.

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**ljiesYoung** → femi • 20 minutes ago

you again here with tribal topic.You really need help

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**ojongolo** → femi • 5 hours ago

femi, how did you ascertain that Axeman777 is an Igbo man. That is the usual jaundiced conclusions of an ignorant segment of the Nigerian population. You are either Igbo, Yoruba or Hausa. The more than 150 other ethnic groups don't count. I happen to know that Axeman is from Kogi. There! Chew on it.

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**ljiesYoung** → ojongolo • 19 minutes ago

You are wrong sir.The man is an Igbo

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**femi** → ojongolo • 2 hours ago

oh! good to know that Axeman777 does have a spokesperson. cheers!

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Adaobi** → Axeman777 • 7 hours ago

**@Axeman777** Until full investigation is carried out, we can't label it a terrorist attack.

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**SAMOO** • 15 hours ago

FOLASHOLA YOU BETTER REPLACE THIS BOKO HARAM POLICE COMMISSIONER NOW!!!! (UMAR MANKO) I JUST WONDER WHY ITS HAS TO BE MALLA-ABOKI AS A GREAT LAGOS POLICE COMMISSIONER WHY???.THEY ALL THE SAME AND WE WOULD NEVER FIND ANYONE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS TERRIOST ACT!!.

SIR ,I URGE OUR HONOURABLE GOVENOR FASHOLA TO PLEASE ASK FOR REPLACEMENT OF THIS BOKO HARAM POLICE COMMISSIONER IN LAGOS(UMAR MANKO)..THANK YOU

2 ^ | 1 v • Reply • Share ›




**Lola** → SAMOO • 7 hours ago

**@SAMM** If he was a boko haram officer he wouldn't have been posted to Lagos. It shows that he is competent and well able to do his duty. In ur rush of anger, it will do you well to caution your statements.


2 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Kunle** → SAMOO • 8 hours ago

 You are an idiot, Fashola is not Mr President neither a Police IG to order transfer of any police personnel. You should just cooperate with security agencies to counter any act of terrorist in the state, period.

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 **Awake** → Kunle • 7 hours ago


Why must you call him idiot to correct him? You are a big fool.

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 **praise** → SAMOO • 12 hours ago

you are simply foolish.

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›


 **jasper** → praise • 11 hours ago

@SAMOO,Does it mean any bad thing that happened is ascribed to our fellow notherners? why not call for their retirement in the police outrightly or thier extinction in this planet.intead of calling for his replacement?

Your comment shows how foolish and daft you are, your piece have not impacted anything to the teeming readers,is it the governors that appoint police commissioners in the state?


please! people like you have no place here, just chill out and go back to the classroom

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 **Almajiri** → SAMOO • 9 hours ago


It does not take a drone engineering to know that this is the government's response to the birth of APC in Lagos. South West will pay dearly for daring to challenge GEJ as northern people did during election especially Kano. GEJ is the grand commander of Boko. Think for a second who does this crime stand to benefit? The so called Boko northerners or the federal government that want to set them (north & south - west) apart. Yoruba welcome to the show let the curtains lift and the light dim.

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 **London boy** • 14 hours ago

HABA..OOOOOH I HOPE IS NOT THIS PEOPLE OOOOH IT MEANS THAT THIS WILL BE THE END OF NIGERIA...BOKO PLEASE LEAVE LAGOS ALONE CONTINUO WITH YOUR JOB IN THE NORTH OOOOH

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 **Almajiri** → London boy • 9 hours ago


London or American boy, it does not take a drone engineering to know that this is the government response to the birth of APC in Lagos. South West will pay dearly for daring to challenge GEJ as northern people did during election especially Kano. GEJ is the grand commander of Boko. Think for a second who does this crime stand to benefit? The so called Boko northerners or the federal government that want to set them (north & south - west) apart. Yoruba welcome to the show let the curtains lift and the light dim.

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 **chris Gabriel** → Almajiri • 3 hours ago

What kind of childish talk is this?

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 **Justin** • 12 hours ago

With this timing numbers of hausa/ fulani i see in legos i know that one day they will invite their boko brothers. But i urge yoruba and legos elite to do something if not, other state in yoruba land will be in troble. But mark my word the first day boko haram will throw bomb in igbo land that will be the day 2nd civil war will begine in nigeria.



1 ^ | 1 v • Reply • Share ›



**Judgement Day** → Justin • 11 hours ago

As far as Igboland is concern, nothing will happened even if Boko Haram kill all the 6 Eastern States Governors! Yes! What has been done to thousands of their men, women and children killed in the North by the same BH? Have you heard of any counter attack from the Igbos? Which group will take the lead? Are they not all blinded by the greed for wealth? Please forget Igbo taking actions if Boko Haram strike in the East, na today??

1 ^ | 2 v • Reply • Share ›



**De Just** → Judgement Day • 43 minutes ago

@Judgemet Day,

you asked 'What has been done to thousands of their (Igbo) men, women and children killed in the North by the same BH?'. You think that killing of Igbos in the north started today. THAT WAS THE IMMEDIATE CAUSE OF BIAFRA WAR (read about

Nigerian Civil War Wikipedia). My question for you is 'how did the rest of the country treated Igbos for rejecting such holocaust at

that time'? Some part of the country betrayed them (talking of the SW) while

some took advantage of their condition (check ABANDONED PROPERTY IN SS) and the

then Government sold part of the country to ensure that external help will not reach the Igbos. THE SEEDING OF BAKASI PENINSULA TO CAMEROON IS THE TESTIMONY

THAT THE IGBOS REJECTED KILLING

OF THEIR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN THE NORTH. The Igbos paid the highest price

for rejecting and condemning bloodshed in the country when it was still at

infant stage. Now, I think it is too late to complain. The other parts of the

country are complaining now because it is gradually affecting them. I promise

you it will not get better, take or leave it. WHAT THE IGBOS SAW 40 – 45 YEARS

AGO IS BECOMING CLEAR TO AN ORDINARY EYE LIKE YOU. THANK GOD YOU CAN NOW SEE. We

must collectively reject unnecessary bloodshed in the country it does not matter your region or state.

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Obinna** • 8 hours ago

Boko haram members have started their war against yarubas i am not surprise because the yarubas are cowards. but i pray that one day they will do the same in owerri my home town believe me all the targets in hand must be neutralized like we did in the past, be it onious, carrot seller or shoe shinner, there is no one muslim that is moderate they are all terrorist.

1 ^ | 2 v • Reply • Share ›



**concern** → Obinna • 4 hours ago

thats right! kill them all like u did when u killed the leaders of Hausas, Fulanis and Yorubas enmass in the sixties right? and we know what happened after act of pogrom. Well d Yoruba cowards are d very ppl u shamelessly surrendered to when u triggered d response to your ethnic cleansing and obviously u have not learnt your lessons and advocating ethnic cleansing again. Just go ahead and try it!!! d response this time would be no mercy and u wont be allowed to surrender this time and we shall make sure u never be in position to kill true Nigerians enmass again. Never never never again. Your cowardice act of evil is in your genes u children of evil biafra; u live peacefully in other regions without being persecuted but u are advocating persecuting

others. try it again!!! ekan idin ninu iyo. eyin omo iran kiran buruku yi.

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Obinna** → concern • 4 hours ago

shut up na mouth una get including u. cowards that man covered with blood there with big belly is ur brother in ur own land? ekan idin ninu iyo. eyin omo iran kiran buruku yi. useless language

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Hom Ikparen** → Obinna • 4 hours ago

And kidnappers are what, bifrian or Igbo Terrorist? Young man, the whole country is not safe. Get to know the meaning of Terrorism and stop your myopic regional and religious bigotry.

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Obinna** • 8 hours ago

How can we share a country with terrorist from the north? the Hausas are ready and wants to go but the stupid yorubas that has nothing to loose are still cowards like their grandfathers. i know yarubas are lazy but if the Bifrians go all the Ibo hausas in Lagos will be yours why are you people still doing nothing?

0 ^ | 2 v • Reply • Share ›



**Hom Ikparen** → Obinna • 5 hours ago

And kidnappers are what, bifrian or Igbo Terrorist? Young man, the whole country is not safe. Get to know the meaning of Terrorism and stop your myopic regional and religious bigotry.

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Nomsky** • 35 minutes ago

Well said al as dat was d first Thor that came to mind but then again, if it were to be you, what will you do? I recall an incident when someone on a street, in front of me suddenly fell to the ground convulsing with his head cracked open n blood gushing out. I cud only just buy him water as people stod looking at him. Another man came and prayed n blessed him and assured him he is well! If we carried him and he died, some people wil lay blame on us and in some areas d law forbids it. The govt owe it to us to act in times li,e this. God help is!

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**qwerty** • an hour ago

everything is messed up. no one knows who is telling the truth or who is lying!

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**ASIA** • 3 hours ago

I FOLLOW U BEN .FIRST AID TREATMENT IS VERY CRUCIAL

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**REV DR FELIX NWOSU** • 3 hours ago

my question is why the phone call and why returning with a police man before the incident?.please lagos state government should try and unravel the course of the bomb blast.Nigeria inteligency is suffering malfunction.and can not be believe by every right thinking fellow.thank you.

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Olaosebaba12** • 4 hours ago

Police will never say the truth. I believe Nigerians know them very well, let everyone be careful and also be more conscious of suspicious movements, police will deny assassination and say it was a robbery case. Don't get carried away by police utterances.

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**GPRS INTELLIGENCE** • 4 hours ago**GPRS VEHICLE TRACKING INSTALLATION SOLUTIONS.**

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**abimbola kumapayi** • 4 hours ago

It is dangerous for anybody without first Aid experience to offer any kind of assistance otherwise the law of neighbourhood watch will trigger a bad one, but then they should have assisted in a little way. The reason is the law that says "Leave your victim as you find him" and to do anything negative is to leave them worse . So i dont really blame them for watching but they have obligation to assist on rescue packages like emergency services like ambulance, fire and police. But ignorance is another thing to look out for

Thank you

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**Bera Bera** • 5 hours ago

The Police must have to be specific with the findings of their investigations. We need to be sure of what actually caused the explosion, this will help us know whether Boko haram or JAMBS has entered Lagos or not.

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**Eda** • 7 hours ago

Again, this reporter failed to provide supporting details of the picture it captured and posted. It is completely bad journalism not provide details on a feature that has been reported. Maybe I won't be buying Punch Newspapers again

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**sam** • 7 hours ago

Someone please talk about LASU part-time pending graduates especially Anthony campus pleaseeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**Krys** • 7 hours ago

The CP jumped into conclusion without facts. This is typical of the Nigeria police and it is shameful. We deserve a better deal from these folks sustained with the tax payers money.

0 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

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