

There was a protest and obstruction of human and vehicular movement on Thursday on the Ijanikin end of the Lagos Badagry Expressway after a commercial bus crushed three schoolchildren to death.

The incident happened close to the Adeniran Ogunsanya College of Education.

According to eyewitnesses, the schoolchildren were said to have crossed one lane of the dual expressway, and were knocked down while attempting to cross the other lane.

It was gathered that because of the busy nature of the road, a good samaritan took it upon himself to assist the schoolchildren in crossing the busy road. He was said to have successfully pleaded with motorists to wait for the children to cross the first lane. While attempting to do the same on the second lane, the impatient driver who refused to stop ran over three of the children, killing them on the spot.

Eyewitnesses said that the passengers in the bus, including the bus conductor took to their heels as soon as the bus stopped, but the driver was apprehended as he attempted to escape. Many people, who had been attracted to the scene, set the bus ablaze.

According to a shop owner in the area, the incident happened at about 8am in the morning.

The source, who identified herself simply as Regina, said, "This road is usually busy during the morning hours and the children were running late to school. They had waited for minutes to cross the road until a good samaritan decided to help.

"They had crossed the first lane before the incident occurred. The driver was signaled to stop, but he tried to swerve in a bid to avoid the children, who were already in the middle of the road, and I think he lost control of the vehicle and crushed the innocent schoolchildren."

Another eyewitness, who pleaded anonymity, told our correspondent that the bodies of the schoolchildren had been deposited at the Badagry General Hospital morgue.

According to the witness, it took the security operatives that came to the scene a long time to disperse the crowd and evacuate the bodies.

She said, "The security men had to shoot into the air to disperse the crowd that gathered. The atmosphere at the time was becoming tense as some of the relative of the deceased schoolchildren were seen weeping uncontrollably."

The Police Public Relations Officer, Lagos State Command, Ngozi Braide, could not be reached for comment on the incident.

Copyright PUNCH.

All rights reserved. This material, and other digital content on this website, may not be reproduced, published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed in whole or in part without prior express written permission from PUNCH.

Contact: editor@punchng.com



Falana tells APC

Don't challenge Fayose's victory,

I'll meet Chibok girls' parents,

Jonathan is petty, Presidency full of liars – El-Rufai

More stories

Columnists



Preparing for the Osun governorship election The surprising, if not unexpected, results of the recent Ekiti governorship election immediately produced

two contradictory reactions. On the one... $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Read}}$ More

