

metro

... City, Crime, Courts

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Fighter pushes peacemaker speeding truck

Samson Folarin

TRAGEDY struck on Limca Road in the Iyana Isolo area of

Lagos State on Thursday after a speeding truck crushed a warehouse driver to death.

PUNCH Metro learnt

that the driver, identified as Rafiu Baale, was pushed into the path of the truck by a tricycle driver, Imeh Matthew, during an affray.

Our correspondent learnt that Imeh and his brother were in the tricycle when a car driver bashed it.

They were said to have stopped in front of the warehouse, where the incident happened, to challenge the car owner.

The action created gridlock, forcing the manager of the warehouse to intervene. He asked the warring parties to vacate the company's gate area.

Our correspondent was told that the deceased, who was a driver with the company, also came out and joined in the call for calm.

However, as the affray and the peace making continued, the tricycle driver was alleged to have pushed Baale to the road and he was crushed to death by a speeding truck.

The matter was said to have been reported at the Answani Police Station, and the truck driver, Aliu Salisu, and the tricycle driver, Imeh, were arrested.

Twenty-five-year old Imeh told PUNCH Metro that he acted in self-defence and had no intention of killing the victim.

He said on the day of the incident, he had parked

his tricycle at a junction to eat, adding that it was while returning in his younger brother's tricycle that the incident happened.

He said, "I am a tricycle driver and I ply Iyana Isolo to Jakande Estate route every day. I have been driving for the past five years.

"On Thursday, last week, I was in my brother's tricycle when a car hit us.

"I came down with my brother to challenge the man.

"It was while doing this that the manager of the company emerged from somewhere and asked why we were making a noise.

"I was about explaining to him when he slapped me. I wanted to talk and he slapped me again.

"He said we should leave the place. Then the driver of the car that bashed us also started struggling with me.

"They all came out from the company and were holding and pulling me. It was when I wanted to defend myself that I mistakenly pushed the man."

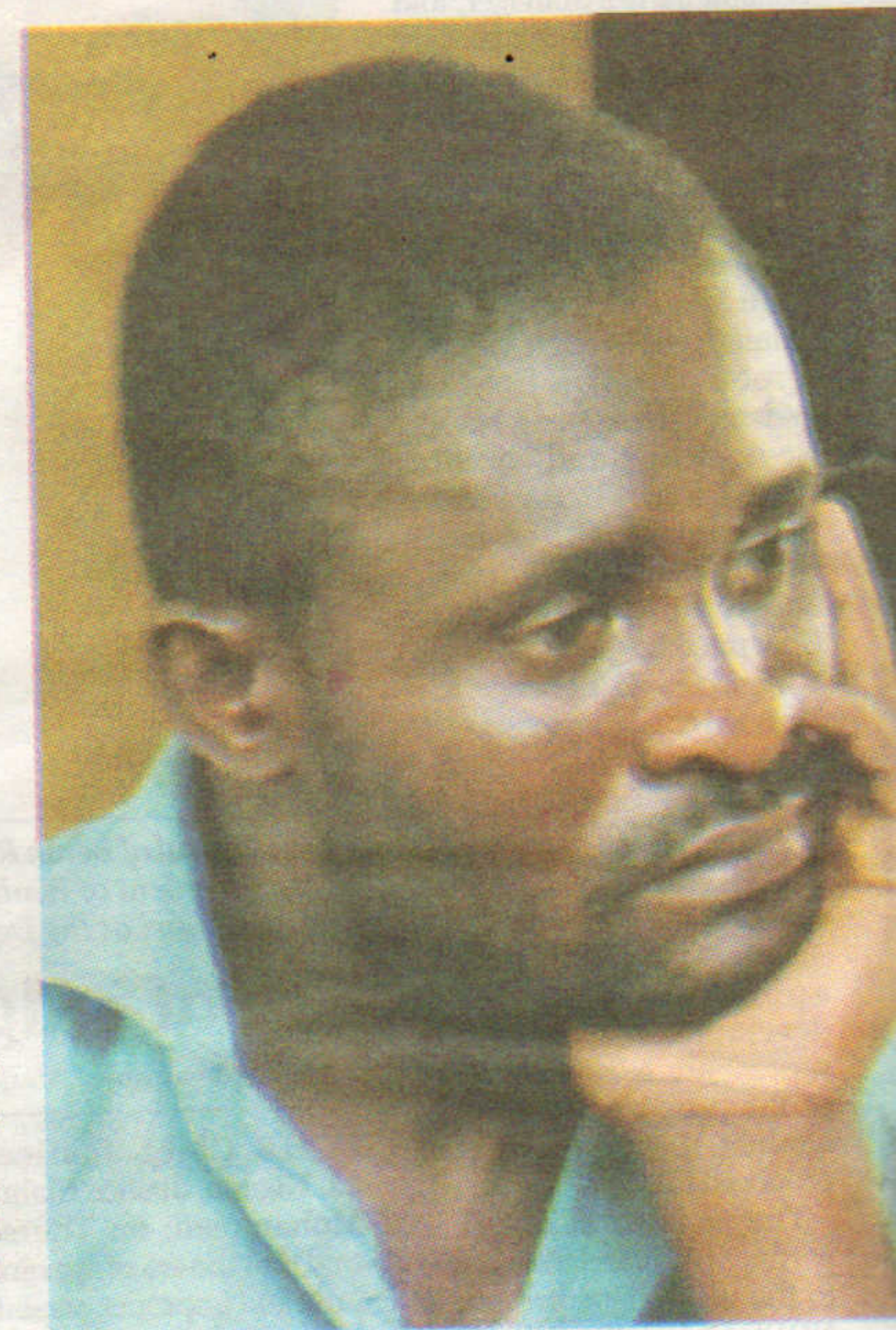
It was learnt that the truck driver crushed the victim and unknowingly dragged him on the road.

Salisu, 29, said it was his conductor that called his

attention to the incident.

He said, "I am a school dropout. I have been driving

for the past seven years. I have a driving licence, which expired in December, 20



• Imeh

Afeez Hanafi

THE father of a 17-year-old girl, identified simply as Senami, is on the run after allegedly cutting his daughter's leg with a hot knife.

It was learnt that the father, who was identified only as Azama, tortured the girl, who hawks Dokunu (local dish), for returning home late on Sunday, May 4.

She was said to have returned home earlier on the fateful day, but went back to collect payment from some customers who bought Dokunu on credit.

Our correspondent was told that Senami's explanation to her father fell on deaf ears. He reportedly tied her with a rope and used the hot knife on her left leg.

PUNCH Metro gathered that Senami had helped her