



METRO PLUS

Three killed, six injured in Lagos auto crashes

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Afeez Hanafi

No fewer than three persons lost their lives on Monday in auto accidents in the Apapa and Lekki Phase I areas of Lagos State.

While a driver and his *motor boy* died in the Apapa incident, a man waiting to board a commercial vehicle at Lekki Phase I bus stop was killed.

PUNCH Metro gathered that a truck was on the Marine Bridge, Apapa, around 1am when it lost control and fell off the bridge.

The truck driver and his *motor boy* reportedly died as they could not get rescuers on time to extricate them from the vehicle.

An official of the Lagos State Emergency Management Agency, who was part of those that removed the damaged truck from the road, said the corpses of the victims were handed over to officials of the State Environmental Health Monitoring Unit.

“Investigation revealed that the truck, with number plate, DBT 313 XA, hit the culvert before falling off the bridge. Policemen from the Apapa division were on the ground while the wreckage was being cleared,” he added.

In the Lekki accident, which happened around 9am, our correspondent learnt that the bus, with number plate AAA929XN, was coming from Ajah at **TOP** speed. The driver had attempted to reduce the speed when the brake had failed.

While struggling with the vehicle, he reportedly veered to the bus stop and knocked down pedestrians waiting by the roadside.

"A man died instantly and many people were injured. Those who had minor injuries were treated on the spot by emergency workers while others were taken to a hospital. At least six persons were injured and one coaster bus was affected," a security guard at the scene, Lere Aremu, told our correspondent.

A resident, who identified himself only as Olalekan, said the bus driver fled the scene, adding that policemen from the Maroko division were at the scene.

Confirming the casualties, the LASEMA General Manager, Mr. Adesina Tiamiyu, urged motorists to drive cautiously and observe traffic rules.

He said, "Three casualties were recorded in the two accidents. We will continue to advise drivers on Lagos roads to exercise patience. Every situation demands different driving approach. The way you drive in the morning should not be the way you drive in the night.

"Motorists should drive with care and ensure their vehicles are in good condition. They should not be in a hurry; rather, they should be concerned with getting to their destinations safely."

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Contact: editor@punchng.com

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