

Motorcyclist dies in crash days after birthday celebration

Published October 24, 2018



Aliyu Abubakar

Deji Lambo

A motorcycle rider, Aliyu Abubakar, has been killed in a crash in the Alapere area of Lagos State.

The 24-year-old, who was riding on Demuren Road, had reportedly overtaken a vehicle when he collided with a tipper on the road.

An eyewitness, Labi Ajibola, said the victim died on the spot.

He said, “From what I gathered, the motorcyclist overtook a vehicle in front of him; he then rammed into the tipper. The passenger on the *okada* sustained minor injuries.”

READ ALSO: Nigerians spend N2.45tn yearly to import vehicles – Osinbajo

A friend of the deceased’s brother, Ibrahim Ndanayibi, said Abubakar had recently celebrated his birthday.

While blaming the incident on potholes, he said motorcyclists chased the tipper driver when he attempted to escape.

The 28-year-old said, “He celebrated his 24th birthday on Monday, October 8, and died two days later.

“Although we commercial motorcycle riders make mistakes sometimes, what caused this accident were the potholes on the road.

“From what I gathered, after he successfully overtook the vehicle in his front, the tipper driver had tried to avoid a pothole when they collided. He somersaulted and sustained serious injuries. His right leg broke into two.”

When *PUNCH Metro* visited the Chairman, Okada Riders Association, Agboyi, Ketu, Branch A, Adeleke Adegboyega, he said members of the association contacted the police when a mob wanted to destroy the tipper.

Adegboyega said, “When I was informed of the accident, I called some members who went there. They calmed down our members who wanted to destroy the tipper that killed Abubakar. The police

took the corpse to their station. The body was released to the family for burial after necessary steps were taken.”

Our correspondent learnt that the deceased hailed from Niger State.

The leader of the Tapa community in the area, Muhammad Baba-Ndafa, said the deceased’s father, a member of the ethnic group, gave approval for his burial.

He said, “As a devout Muslim community, we ensure that we bury our dead in line with Islamic rites. His father said we should not bring his corpse home and agreed that we bury him in Lagos.”

The Lagos State Police Public Relations Officer, CSP Chike Oti, said the tipper driver was in police custody.

Oti said, “A motorcyclist who wanted to beat traffic rammed into a tipper that was coming from the opposite direction. The motorcyclist died on the spot. But his colleagues, who were pained by the tragic incident, had wanted to destroy the tipper when we were contacted.