

Lagos Kanuri leader, two others killed in Borno crash

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THE king of Kanuri in Lagos (Mai Kanuribe of Lagos), Alhaji Mustapha Muhammadu; and two others died on Tuesday in an auto accident during a trip with the Borno State Governor, Prof. Babagana Zulum to Mafa.

The governor, who was accompanied by political associates and government officials, had on Tuesday taken a short trip to the Mafa Local Government Area, where he hails from, to be part of the ongoing All Progressives Congress registration and revalidation.

In the convoy with the governor were Deputy Governor, Alhaji Umar Kadafur, Senator Kashim Shettima (Borno Central), APC State Caretaker Chairman, Alhaji Ali Dalori, Chief of Staff, Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the State House of Assembly, members of National and State Assemblies,

members of the State Executive Council, some council chairmen, governor's aides and other prominent politicians and members of the public.

A source said the private vehicle of the Mai Kanuribe had a ruptured tyre and somersaulted three times, causing the immediate death of the chief and one other occupier of the vehicle.

The driver was said to have died later at a hospital.

Another source said, "Two occupants, including Mai Kanuribe of Lagos, Alhaji Mustapha Muhammadu, died on the spot while the driver who sustained serious injuries later died some few hours after."

Sources said the governor and the entourage evacuated the remains of the deceased to their family house in Maiduguri.

Zulum's convoy not involved in accident – Spokesman

However, the spokesman for the Borno State Governor, Mallam Isa Gusau, denied that the convoy of his boss was involved in the accident.

Gusau, in a statement on Tuesday, said, "The Mai had no doubt travelled to Mafa and the trip was in solidarity with Governor Zulum's administration and the APC. However, the Mai left Mafa on his way back to Maiduguri, while the governor was still in Mafa.

“This clarification does not in any way aim to disown the late Mai, but to put the record as it is. Governor Zulum deeply recognizes the fact that the late Mai Kanuribe, a leader with open passion for the progress of Borno and its people, undertook his last journey to Mafa, in honour of Zulum administration and the APC.”