

Car kills 16-year-old girl, students block Ogun highway

Published February 12, 2021



The victim's father (in singlet) with sympathisers

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Pandemonium broke out on Thursday on the Lagos-Abeokuta Expressway at Wasimi, in the Ewekoro Local Government Area of Ogun State, after a 16-year-old student, Mercy Godwin, was crushed to death by a car.

Commuters and travellers plying the road were stranded as protesting secondary school students of the victim's school, United Comprehensive High School, Wasimi, blocked the road.

Mercy was said to be in JSS 2 and was knocked down in front of the school.

A witness told our correspondent that the angry students prevented vehicles from both sides of the road from moving, as they created barricades along the expressway.

PUNCH Metro gathered that motorists diverted into bush paths and abandoned roads in the villages around the area that linked Abeokuta and Ifo roads.

The development affected free flow of vehicles both inward Lagos and outward Abeokuta, with motorists stranded for hours.

Some people were also reportedly injured during the protest.

The deceased's father, Adegwu Godwin, described the death as shocking.

He sought financial help from government to take the corpse to his hometown in Benue State for burial.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Abimbola Oyeyemi, confirmed the incident.

Oyeyemi denied reports that a policeman was injured during the protest.

He said, "What happened was that a Toyota Picnic car hit a secondary school student at Wasimi and the student died. Her colleagues went on the rampage and blocked the roads and the Area Commander, Ota, was at the scene; they have cleared the blockage.

"The vehicle was burnt and the person who drove the car has been caught. The situation is under control now; the road is free."