

21 killed as speeding vehicles crash on Kaduna, Osun roads

Godwin Isenyo and
Bola Bamigbola

2 TWENTY-ONE persons have been killed in two separate auto crashes in Kaduna and Osun States.

The Kaduna crash occurred in Kateri along the Kaduna-Abuja Expressway in the Kagarko Local Government Area of the state on Sunday.

2 While a popular broadcaster with Uniq FM, a private road station based in Ilesha, Sunday Alakinde, and one other commuter, whose identity could not be immediately ascertained, were killed in a crash, which occurred around 3am on Monday on the Ilesha/Ile-Ife Expressway.

A DAF truck vehicle involved in the Kaduna accident was said to be coming from Lagos and was headed for Kano when the crash occurred.

The crash, according to the state Commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs, Mr Samuel Aruwan, was caused by a combination of excessive speed and tyre burst, leading to the loss of control on the part of the driver, which caused the vehicle to veer off the road and into the bush.

Aruwan explained that 53 persons were involved in the crash, out of which 16 died on the spot, while three others later passed away.

The commissioner said 34 persons sustained varying degrees of injury, adding that they were evacuated from the scene by personnel of the state command of the Federal Road Safety Corps.

He added that the survivors were receiving treatment in an undisclosed hospital.

Aruwan stated, "Security agencies reported that 19 people died in a road traffic crash at the Kateri axis of the Kaduna-Abuja Highway on Sunday.

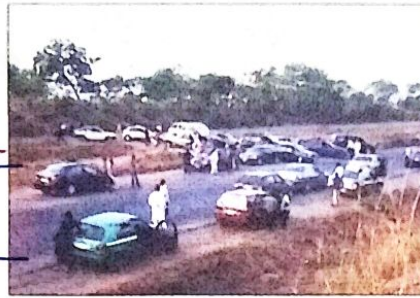
"A total of 53 persons were involved in the crash; 16 of these died on the spot, with three others later confirmed dead.

"Thirty-four sustained injuries, which ranged from bruises and cuts to dislocations and head injuries. They were evacuated from the scene by personnel of the Federal Road Safety Corps.

"Officials of the Ministry of Internal Security and Home Affairs visited the site of the crash to ascertain the report of events and avoid misrepresentation of the incident.

"According to Auwal Idris, the driver, most of the passengers on board the ill-fated truck were picked at Kara by a filling station in Lagos (Ogun) State, with some to be dropped off at Zaria, while Kano was meant to be the final destination."

"Governor Nasir El-Rufai expressed shock and sadness at the report and



• Kaduna-Abuja Expressway



• Alakinde

prayed for the repose of the souls of those who perished in the crash, while sending condolences to their families. He also wished the injured victims speedy recovery," the commissioner added.

One other person was also injured in the Osun accident, which involved a luxury bus and a Peugeot 406 saloon car.

The Public Relations Officer, Osun Command, Federal Road Safety Corps, Agnes Ogungbemi, confirmed the crash.

Ogungbemi said, "The accident occurred around 3am on the Ilesha/Ile-Ife route. The probable cause is speed limit violation. One person was injured, while two others died.

"The injured victim was taken to the Wesley Hospital, Ilesha, for medical treatment, while the remains of the deceased were deposited in the morgue of the same hospital."

Meanwhile, the Osun State chapter of the Freelance and Independent

Broadcasters Association of Nigeria has expressed shock over Alakinde's sudden death.

Delta okada rider nabbed for raping passengers

Matthew Ochei, Asaba

THE Delta State Police Command has arrested a 35-year-old motorcyclist, who allegedly specialises in raping his female passengers.

The acting Police Public Relations Officer in the state, DSP Bright Edafe, stated this on Monday in Asaba.

He said, "On March 19, 2021, around 9.30pm, after a series of intelligence gathering by cultivation of informants by the men of the Oghara Division, a serial rapist, who is a motorcycle rider and specialises in picking young girls at night as



• Ovie

passengers, was arrested.

"When he conveys passengers, he will divert them into the bush, rob them of their belongings and thereafter forcefully have carnal knowledge of them while threatening them with a dagger.

"A combined team of police and Army personnel swung into action and arrested Ovie Michael, a 35-year-old man; nine telephones of different makes, including that of his last victim, who reported to the police, were recovered from him."

Other items recovered from him were an iPhone valued at N400,000, nine female handbags, two pairs of eye glasses, five phone chargers, two Automated Teller Machine cards and 13 SIM cards.

Edafe added that investigation was ongoing.

Similarly, the PPRO said a team of policemen stormed a black spot on the Open Heaven Hotel premises in the Ifiekporo community and arrested one Mr Lucky Afejuku with 47 wraps of weeds suspected to be Indian hemp and 10 pieces of skunk weeds, popularly known as SK, in transparent plastic containers, as well as five bottles of 100 milligrams of codeine syrup.

According to Edafe, the man was arrested on Sunday based on intelligence and long term monitoring by the men of the 'A' Division, Warri. „

Forex trader remanded for defrauding investors of N17.4m, \$6,300



• Yaniyang

Oluwatosin Omojuyigbe

A self-acclaimed foreign exchange trader, Nanpan Yaniyang, has been remanded by the Lagos State High Court for allegedly defrauding investors of N17,449,000 and \$6,300.

It was gathered that Yaniyang collected the said sums from one Valerie Okoli and other investors on the pretext of helping them to incorporate a company and invest the money in forex.

Yaniyang was arraigned on four counts bordering on stealing and obtaining by false pretences before Justice O. O. Abike-Fadipe.

He pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Following his plea, the prosecuting counsel, Ayanfe Ogunsina, asked the

court for a trial date and urged it to remand the defendant in custody.

The defence counsel, Cyril Ebbeh, informed the court of the bail application filed on behalf of his client.

Justice Abike-Fadipe adjourned the matter till March 29, 2021, for the hearing of the bail application and ordered that the defendant be remanded in any of the correctional centres in the state.

The charges read in part, "That you, Nanpan Salihu Yaniyang, sometime in 2020 in Lagos State, within the jurisdiction of this honourable court, with intent to defraud, obtained the sum of N17,449,000 from Valerie Okoli and her co-investors under the pretext that you would help them incorporate a company, and use the said fund to invest in forex, which you knew or ought to know was false.

"That you Nanpan Salihu Yaniyang, sometime in 2020 in Lagos State, within the jurisdiction of this honourable court, with intent to defraud, obtained the sum of \$6,300 from Valerie Okoli and her co-investors under the pretext that you would use the said fund to invest in forex, which pretext you knew or ought to know was false."