

Driver reports self to police as trucks crush 65-year-old Ebonyi pedestrian

Edward Nnachi 12 August 2021

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Map of Ebonyi State

A 65-year-old man, identified as Papa Elijah, has been killed by two trucks.

Our correspondent gathered that while one of the trucks hit the deceased and he fell, the other ran over him.

The incident happened at the Aforezuna Junction on Tran-Saharan highway, in the Abakaliki Local Government Area of the state.

A witness, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said while one of the drivers escaped, the other stopped and handed himself to the police.

He said, "Papa Elijah was crossing the expressway to buy kerosene in a filling station located on the highway when two speeding trucks competing for space ran into him. One hit him and he fell, while the other ran over him and crushed him.

"Shortly, a team of policemen came to the scene and the man's body was taken in an old roofing sheet, because he was crushed beyond recognition. The man was identified with only the clothes he was wearing when he left his house to buy the kerosene."

The witness, who hails from the same Okposi community in the Ohaozara Local Government Area of the state with the deceased, described him as a hard-working man despite his old age.

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The source further said Elijah made *Otapiapia* (a local insecticide) to fend for himself and his family, adding he was to buy kerosene with which he produced the mixture, before he was killed by the trucks.

Meanwhile, a team of policemen and sympathisers were seen at the scene of the incident when our correspondent visited the area.

The policemen later moved the truck whose driver stopped when the tragedy occurred to their station.

Neither the state Police Public Relations Officer nor the Commissioner of Police picked calls put across to their mobile phones for confirmation of the incident.

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