

# One killed as tanker crushes three Lagos tricycles

Dayo Oyewo and Gift Habib

At least one person was killed and several others were injured on Tuesday when a petrol-laden tanker crushed three tricycles in the Ikotun area of Lagos State.

PUNCH Metro gathered that the tanker, with number plate JJJ 125, was descending a sloppy section of the road inward Ikotun Market when its brake failed.

An eyewitness, Dare Samson, said the tanker driver lost control when he got to the Synagogue Church end of the road.

He said, "Tricycle operators usually make a U-turn shortly after the Synagogue Church back to Egbe. By the time the affected tricycles were about to drop off their passengers, the tanker driver, who had lost control of the vehicle when he got to Synagogue, rammed into them."

Another eyewitness, Mojisola Ajisafe, said the driver was not speeding when the incident



• One of the tricycles happened.

Ajisafe said, "I was on the other side of the road when the tanker was heading towards the traffic light. No one thought the brake had failed as it was not moving fast; the fatalities would have been more than this. Four people were



• The tanker

quickly pulled out of the tricycles, including a pregnant woman who was unconscious; she was taken to a hospital."

The spokesperson for the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority, Adebayo Taofiq, confirmed the incident.

Taofiq, in a statement, said officers of the agency handed over those rescued to the police, who took them to a general hospital for treatment.

The statement read, "A preliminary investigation revealed that the fully loaded container

tanker (JJJ 125) had a brake failure and crushed three tricycles by a valley around Synagogue Church when going towards Ikotun.

"The Lagos State Emergency Management Agency immediately moved the tanker with those crushed tricycles to the Ikotun Police Station.

"Other emergency responders, including the Nigeria police from the Ikotun Police Station, were at the scene of the accident.

"The General Manager of LASTMA, Mr Bolaji Oreagba, has warned tanker owners and drivers to always ensure that their trucks are properly checked and in good condition before embarking on any journey."

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Benjamin Hundeyin, confirmed one death.

He said, "One person died and three persons were injured. The driver has been arrested and

investigation is ongoing."

## Container accidents

Meanwhile, no fewer than 27 lives have been lost in 23 crashes involving containerised trucks between January 2021 and January 2023.

Findings by our correspondent showed that in 2021, 10 containers fell on vehicles and 10 incidents were recorded in 2022, while three had so far occurred in 2023.

Further checks revealed that Lagos recorded 15 incidents; Ogun, three; Rivers, two; Abia, Oyo and Kwara recorded one each.

Lagos had the highest number of casualties with 15 dead; Ogun, four; Rivers, three; Oyo, three; Kwara and Abia, one, respectively.

On January 29, 2023, an auto accident involving a truck claimed the lives of nine passengers in the

Ojuelegba area of Lagos state.

The crash occurred when the 20-foot container being conveyed by the truck landed on a commercial bus, which was picking up passengers.

On 13 October 2022, three persons lost their lives when a truck carrying a 40-foot container fell and knocked two vehicles into a river at the Eleme axis of the East-West Road in Rivers State.

On September 7, a truck fell on a tricycle popularly referred to as Keke Napep, killing its three occupants instantly and leaving others trapped in Ogun State.

Speaking with PUNCH Metro on Tuesday, the Chief Executive Officer of Professional Driving and Safety Academy, Jide Owatunmise, blamed poor training for the rising road carnage caused by truck drivers.

Owatunmise said, "An individual that is having an articulated vehicle cannot be told that he needs training or his truck needs maintenance because he cannot be tracked. If it is a company's truck that caused harm, law enforcement can easily reach out to the management of the company for questioning and if they fail to admit, the company can be penalised."

"Also, 99 per cent of drivers lack knowledge of vehicle dynamics. Forget the fact that FRSC and VIO have been organising training; these drivers have not been trained in vehicle dynamics because if they have the knowledge, they will be mindful of

# OPC members burn Osun baker over

Olamide Famuwagun

A 22-year-old baker, David Sunny, has demanded compensation after he was allegedly tortured by some members of the Oodua People's Congress after N3.8m was stolen from a bakery where he worked.

PUNCH Metro gathered that Sunny worked with the bakery in a supermarket, Unique Superstores, in the Owode-Ede area of Osun State.

He was said to have resumed as usual and was informed that the bakery was robbed by some



(the OPC leader) and some others, who took him to a location where he was tortured and asked to confess to the theft.

"I kept pleading my innocence, but it fell on deaf ears. They beat me and set fire under me, which burnt parts of my body."

"Oriade's second-in-command raised a cutlass to behead me and they all kept saying I should say my last prayers."

"He was making some incantations but when he got to my neck, thankfully he stopped. He kept telling me that I was

# stolen money

feel safe.

"We reported the matter to the state Commissioner of Police and my manager and chief executive officer were charged with kidnapping and suspected ritualism."

"However, Oriade and other OPC members did not show up at the station," he added.

Sunny demanded compensation for the injuries he suffered.

The manager of the bakery, Abdulatai Ovesomi, stated that

their own investigations.

"They asked for Sunny and said they wanted to interrogate him; we agreed and we told them not to hurt him in any way. The mistake we made was leaving him (Sunny) with them."

"When we saw him after the whole thing, we took him to a hospital, sorted his medical bills and bought him provisions. When we even found out that he left the apartment that we gave him and went to his family's place in Osoba, we settled with his family."

Man. 47. alleged