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Car crushes PDP chieftain, six others to death in Kebbi

From Ahmed Idris, Birnin Kebbi

It was a tragic day for residents of Illeyaryari area of Birnin Kebbi when seven people, including a frontline politician, Alhaji Ibrahim Dan-Illela (Barden Gwandu), were crushed to death in the early hours of yesterday.

The late **chieftain** of the Peoples Democratic Party (**PDP**), according to eye witness accounts, was sitting in front of his house around 8.30 am with some of his political associates when a Honda Accord car, allegedly driven by a political thug (name withheld) ran into them.

Five of them reportedly died on the spot while two others died a few hours later at the Emergency Ward of Sir Yahaya General Hospital Birnin Kebbi where they were immediately rushed following the sad incident.

One Tijani Abubakar, who spoke to Peoples Daily at the scene of the accident, said the **driver** was suspected to have been drunk at the time of the accident, and was on top speed when he drove recklessly into the street.

Continuing, he said: "It is sad that he lost control of the vehicle and suddenly ran into the people where they were seated in front of Alhaji Dan Illela's house, killing seven of them, leaving two others in critical condition; they are now hospitalised."

Our correspondent gathered that immediately the accident occurred, people around the area, who believed that the accident was precipitated by political interests, attempted to kill the **driver** who belongs to the rival faction of the **PDP**.

He was, however, rescued by the police, who were invited to the scene, and who quickly whisked him away from the angry mob.

A member of the mob told Peoples Daily under condition of anonymity that it was regrettable that the **driver** was allowed to escape mob justice after killing seven people, including Dan- Illela, once a member of the Kebbi State Pilgrims Board.

He continued: "He is a notorious thug being used by some aggrieved politicians to cause trouble in the township. Only a few months back, the same anti-social element was arrested and jailed for playing inciting music around town.

"Look, we know that this killing has political motive, this man was seen in a particular politician's house around the town. We know it was planned but we will wait and see where it will all end," he added.

Alhaji Muhammad Ibrahim Dan-Illela, until his death, was a frontline **PDP** member in Kebbi state, and belonged to the Nasamu Two-Term Agenda, which is opposed to the Senator Adamu Aliero group to which the **driver** belongs.

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The late Dan-Illela has since been buried according to Islamic rites.

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ledede62.173.36.xxx |2010-04-13 08:11:36

"Inna Lillahi Wa ina illaihi raji'un" The attitude and circumstances leading to this terrible episode should be thoroughly investigated by the Police.

We should embrace politics without bitterness, this kind of situation is unacceptable although I am not pre-empting the outcomes of police investigations. I am only referring to the report of the newspaper that, he was seen in the morning discussing with other rival group.

May almighty Allah grant the families of the deceased politicians courage to bear the irreparable losses.

I also wish to seize this opportunity, to extend my condolence messages to His Excellency Alhaji Saidu Nasamu Dakingari, members of the **PDP** and entire people of Kebbi State for this irreparable losses.

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Mustafa zagga - Condolence

ledede64.255.180.xxx |2010-04-13 11:19:03

May his soul rest in perfect peace. Amen

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Amadi Gabriel - Probe

ledede34.253.3.xxx |2010-04-13 14:26:42

I am saying that police should seriously look into this brutal killings of innocent people. And the people that planned this killing should be brought to book. This will serve as a deterrent to others.

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Abdullahirano - WHAT A TRAGEDY?

ledede196.46.245.xxx |2010-04-13 17:02:36

I am a resident of Birnin Kebbi and i believe this guy is known for notorious dangerous driving, surely he will face the law. for the reposed souls of the deceased i pray that may Jannatul firdausi be their resting place.

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