

# Tension in Jalingo as trailer crushes six to death

From **Sylvanus Viashima**, Jalingo

AT least six people died in a fatal accident involving a vehicle trailer, a water tanker and a tricycle, at Nukai, Taraba State, yesterday.

According to witnesses, the trailer, which was reportedly travelling on high speed, lost control and rammed into the water tanker in a failed attempt to overtake it, veered off the road and drove straight into a nearby compound where it crushed the landlord to death.

Meanwhile, the water tanker also lost control and overran a tricycle, killing its four occupants instantly.

The driver of the water truck belonging to the Federal Medical Center Jalingo, was said to be in critical condition but the conductor reportedly died instantly.

Youths, angered by the incident, blamed it on bad road and lack of 'shoulders' on the road, then blocked the federal highway, burned tyres and insisted that the road would remain blocked until the state government fixed it.

When *Daily Sun* visited the scene, corpses and those who were injured in the accident had been evacuated to the Federal Medical Center, Jalingo, but the wreckage of the water tanker and trailer were still there, while the Commissioner of Police, Yakubu Babbas, was trying to pacify the mob to restore normalcy in the area.

Babbas, who said the accident was most regrettable, said the most important thing at the time was to ensure that the riot did not escalate since the area is predominantly residential. It is unfortunate that these people died in such a gruesome way..."