

# Lagos flood kills 7, auto crash claims 4 in Ondo

From **Bamigbola Gbolagunte**, Akure

**FOUR** people, including a commercial driver, yesterday, lost their lives in a fatal road accident which occurred along Olokuta-Shasha road in Akure, the Ondo state capital.

Witnesses said the accident occurred when a Sienna bus coming from the Ondo axis of the road had a head-on collision with an Ore-bound Hummer bus.

The four victims were said to have died instantly. It took the intervention of motorists and residents around the area before some other passengers in the vehicles could be rescued.

Men of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) in the state later arrived at the scene and moved the bodies of the victims to the mortuary. The accident caused a gridlock on the busy Akure-Ondo road for several hours.

② Meanwhile, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) said that last week's flooding which occurred in Lagos claimed seven lives.

The agency's Zonal Coordinator, South West, Mr Ibrahim Farinloye, made the disclosure in a statement in Lagos, yesterday.

"The post-emergency phase assessment after the unprecedented rainfall of Friday, July 8 and Saturday, July 9, 2022 has revealed that about seven people – three children of the same parent and four adults – died.

"About eight lives were also saved during the period, as a result of the flooding that was witnessed during the two-day continuous rainfall," he said.

Farinloye further stated that the three siblings who lost

their lives were residing at a church building belonging to Mercy of Christ Apostolic Church, situated in an uncompleted building.

He said that the siblings, Michael, 18; Elizabeth, 17, and Timi, 14, were swept away while trying to relocate from their room to the main church structure.

He said that the youngest child, Tmi, who was said to be asthmatic, while trying to climb the plank linking their

room to the church building, slipped and was overpowered by the flood.

The coordinator added that the remaining two, while trying to rescue their sibling, were also swept away by the flood.

Farinloye said that the NEMA team, while on a condolence visit to the families, met with representatives of Progressive Community Development Area, who conducted the agency around the

affected communities.

"The bereaved parents were said to be somewhere, but the NEMA team had a brief meeting with the community leaders on the way forward.

"An appeal was made to them that, for the rest of the year, the community must embark on awareness and sensitisation on safe actions, to avoid the situation that they experienced during the period.

(Continued on [www.sunnewsonline.com](http://www.sunnewsonline.com))

## IGP bans SPY vehicle number plates, orders seizure

From **Molly Kilete**, Abuja

**THE** Inspector General of Police (IGP), Usman Alkali Baba, has ordered the ban on the use of Police SPY Vehicle Number Plates by vehicle owners across the country.

The IGP, said the ban has become necessary to forestall the continuous disregard for traffic rules and regulations and other extant laws guiding road use by individuals hiding under the privileges of SPY police number plates.

He has, therefore, directed state commissioners of police to confiscate all SPY number plates currently in use, but said such vehicles should not be arrested unless they are po-

lice officers or officers of other security agencies on escort duties.

The IGP, gave the warning in a statement signed by the force Public Relations Officer, Olumuyiwa Adejobi.

The statement reads: "The Inspector-General of Police, IGP Usman Alkali Baba, has ordered a total ban on all use of Police SPY Vehicle Number Plates by vehicle owners across the states of the federation without exceptions. This is irrespective of whether it is authorised or not, as all authorisations are, hereby, revoked indefinitely.

"This order is necessary to forestall the continuous disregard for traffic rules and regu-

lations and other extant laws guiding road use by individuals hiding under the privileges of SPY police number plates. The IGP has, therefore, directed that police officers and officers of other security agencies attached to VIPs, who use the SPY number plates should ensure prompt compliance with this directive or risk being arrested for violation of the order.

"Meanwhile, the IGP has directed Commissioners of Police (CPs) in the 36 States of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory, as well as their supervisory Assistant Inspectors General of Police (AIGs), to give full effect to the directives as contained above. The IGP specifically directed the AIGs and CPs

to ensure that all SPY number plates currently in use are confiscated, henceforth, but the owners of such vehicles should not be arrested unless they are police officers or officers of other security agencies on escort duties.

"The IGP, however, warned that while carrying out these assignments, officers must ensure the rights and privileges of citizens are respected in line with the laws of the land and in accordance with international best practices. Other security agencies and members of the public are enjoined to cooperate with the police in this regard, as the moves are aimed at strengthening our internal security."