

Truck crushes students, several others on Lagos Badagry Expressway

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By Brown Chimezie

Tragedy struck at Agbara and the neighbouring communities of Magbon and Oko Afor along the Badagry Expressway, Lagos, on Friday, as a truck carrying goats went berserk and rammed into a bus conveying some students who just concluded their Senior Secondary School Certificate Examination (SSSCE).

An eyewitness, Idonige Christopher told Saturday Sun that the students finished their “last paper today and then chartered a bus that was to convey them to a place where they would unwind and thank God

for the success of the exams.

“But sadly, the plan was cut short as the truck driver on a top speed ran into the vehicle and other buses at Agbara Bus stop.

“I saw about four persons being pulled out of the vehicle dead, while others were still trapped in the wreckage of the bus.”

According to Christopher, the truck driver in an attempt to evade arrest continued to accelerate, knocking several vehicles off its path. At Magbon Bus stop, about two kilometres after Agbara, the rampaging truck allegedly ran over students waiting to board commercial buses and crushed a yet-to-be-ascertained number of pupils.

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“The reckless driver continued to Oko Afor Bus stop, where it crushed several cars and a fully loaded 18-seater Mazda bus,” Christopher stated.

Saturday Sun gathered that the reckless driver was eventually stopped by operatives of Nigeria Customs Service at Elijah Bus stop, who suspected the drivers strange attitude.

As at the time of this report, men of Morogbo Police Division were at the scene of the accident, investigating the incident. Since the commencement of the construction of the 10-lane Badagry Road, the Eric More Tower end of the road to Okokomaiko has been completed. But the Agbara end of the road to Badagry and Seme border has remained dilapidated and a deathtrap.

About four years ago, Lagos State, in conjunction with the Federal Ministry of Work, began the reconstruction of the road. Only a single lane has been completed in most sections of the road,

prompting motorists to face oncoming traffic, with resultant accidents on a daily basis.

Efforts to get the reaction of the Lagos State Police Command were unfruitful as at press time, as the state police spokesman, Benjamin Hundeyin could not be reached for comments.