

# Driver kills two hawkers while answering phone call

Stanley Ihedigbo, Damilare Oguntoyinbo, Ruth Ulu, Chikodili Ozulumba and Tunji Okewale

A man, who was receiving a phone call while driving a Honda CRV yesterday, reportedly crushed to death two teenage hawkers at Ojodu area of the Lagos metropolis.

It was learnt that the victims, Stanley Innocent (15) and his friend, Sunday Aghara (13), were crushed as they were standing by the roadside on Ojodu Road, beside Dominion Supermarket, Omole.

The driver, Saheed Alabi, was later arrested and detained at Ojodu Police Station.

Witnesses said the victims died on the spot by the roadside where they were hit by the vehicle with registration number Lagos EPE 390 FA.

They alleged that the driver was answering call when he ran



The car



The police station where the driver is detained  
PHOTO: TONY EGUAYE

into the two boys who were hawking pawpaw by the roadside.

One of the witnesses, who identified himself as Kings, blamed the recklessness of the driver for the accident.

He said that if not for the intervention of the police, who rushed to the scene, angry mob would have attacked the driver as they vandalised his vehicle.

Another witness said the driver tried to overtake another vehicle when he swerved and knocked down the two boys.

Angry youths who besieged the Ojodu Police Station asked the police to release the driver to them.

One of the victims' elder brothers, Joseph Innocent, said he could not believe that his half-brother was dead.

He said: "We are from the same father, but different mothers. Our father and his mother are in the village. One of our father's sisters brought the two of us to Lagos, so that we will go to school. But for me, when I came, I decided to look for work so I will support Stanley,

my aunty and her children.

"I was at work and I didn't know what happened. My oga (boss) only told me that people were looking for me concerning my brother. They told me that he was knocked down by a driver who was making a phone call."

Joseph added that with Stanley's death, he was the only son of their father alive as three of his brothers had died.

He said: "I don't know what to say and I don't want to believe that my brother is no more. I have

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