

31 killed, 14 injured in Ogun, Plateau crash, attacks

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No fewer than 23 people were killed and 14 sustained in separate incidents in Ogun and Plateau States on Saturday.

In the first incident a gas laden truck, lost control and fell on two vehicles at Orimerunmu area on the Lagos-Ibadan expressway, killing one person.

The crash involving an unregistered Volvo Truck loaded with gas, a Toyota Corolla with registration number, EQ 165 LSR and Toyota Sienna marked, FKJ 341 GC, occurred at 7:03am.

Sunday Telegraph gathered that the driver of the gas laden truck lost control causing the tanker to fall on both the Sienna and Corolla car.

The Public Relations Officer (PPRO) of the Ogun State Traffic Compliance and Enforcement Corps (TRACE), Babatunde Akinbiyi, confirmed the incident to journalists in Abeokuta on Saturday.

Akinbiyi disclosed that eight people were involved in the accident which comprised three men, three women and two minors, saying that one person died in the accident.

He stated that the corpse of the deceased had been deposited at the morgue of Famobis Hospital in Lotto.

He said that the rescue team which included officers of TRACE, police and the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) took control of the traffic after rescuing other victims of the incident.

Akinbiyi disclosed that, driver of the gas laden truck took to his heels shortly after the accident occurred.

"The gas laden truck lost control due to over speeding and the tanker fell on both the Toyota Sienna and Toyota

Corolla vehicles, all of which were outbound Lagos (moving out of Lagos).

The Toyota Corolla car consists of the father, mother and two minors (their children) while the Toyota Sienna consists of a male (the driver) and two females who escaped unhurt."

While commiserating with the family of the deceased, he urged tanker drivers to maintain their vehicles properly and adequately as well as control their speed in case of the risk and danger associated with the same.

In a related development, Plateau State Police Command on Saturday confirmed the killing of 22 commuters while 14 injured in Jos, the State capital.

Police Public Relations officer ASP Gabriel Ubah in a Press Statement said suspected Youths attacked five buses of the commuters along Rukuba Road, Jos North and killed 22 persons.

The Statement read: "On 14/08/2021 at about 0928hrs, the Plateau State Police Command received a distress call that a group of attackers suspected to be Igwe youths and their sympathisers along Rukuba Road of Jos North LGA attacked a convoy of five buses with Muslim faithful who were coming back from the Annual Zikr prayer in Bauchi State and heading to Ikare in Ondo State.

"Unfortunately, twenty-two (22) persons were killed and fourteen injured in the attack. "Upon receipt of the report, a team of Police personnel, the military and other sister agencies were immediately mobilised to the scene where seven victims were rescued and six suspects arrested.

"The Commissioner of Police, Plateau State Command, CP Edward Egbuka, along with the GOC 3-Division, Major General Ibrahim Ali, also visited the scene and

ordered for a discreet investigation to fish out other perpetrators of this barbaric act at large."

Meanwhile, Governor Oluwarotimi Akeredolu of Ondo State has called for calm among residents of the State.

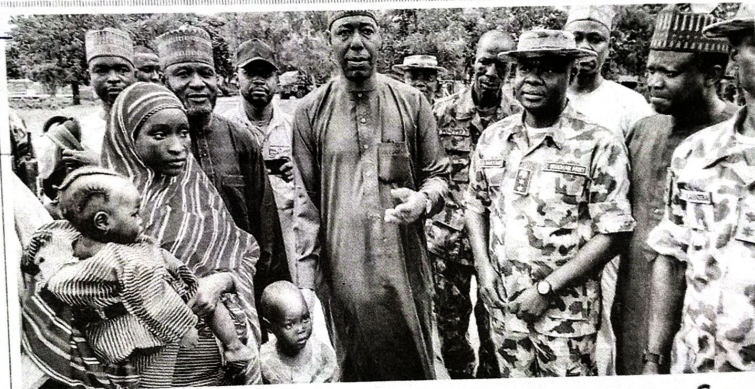
While assuring that the situation was under control, Akeredolu disclosed that he had received a report over the attack from his counterpart in Plateau State.

According to the governor in a statement by his Chief Press Secretary, Richard Olatunde, the incident was a case of mistaken identity as the victims were said to have taken a route where crisis between

Muslims and Northern Christians had ensued for some time.

Akeredolu who appealed to the people to refrain from any hasty colouration of the incident maintained that Ondo State indigenes living in Plateau are not targets of any religion or ethnic crisis.

He said: "I have spoken with my brother Governor in Plateau, and he has assured me that the situation is under control. I want to plead with our people to remain calm. From the report I gathered, it is clear some were killed while many others who are injured have been taken to the hospital for medical attention.



Borno State Governor, Babagana Umara Zulum (middle); Commander, 26 Taskforce Brigade, Brigadier General DR Dantani (second right); Chibok Girl, Hassana Adamu and her children and others, as the governor received another Chibok girl in Gwoza... yesterday

Insecurity caused by bad economy –Sanusi

**Baba Negedu
KADUNA**

Former Emir of Kano and Ex - Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Governor, Muhammadu Sanusi II, yesterday said that he is not happy about the socio-economic situation of the country.

According to the former CBN governor, policies of past administrations over the years had messed up the nation's economy to the extent that the country wasted 40 years without achieving economic progress.

Sanusi spoke on Saturday while marking his 60th birthday anniversary with a colloquium in Kaduna.

Because, 60 years ago when I was born, the United States government advisory was telling investors that Nigeria has a better economic future than Japan. Today where are we and where is Japan?

"It is not about one or two governments, it is about decades of a people throwing away opportunities and every time we are given a chance to make a change, we go back to the same old things.

"And you know, when I have a platform like these, I have to talk. I have tried not to say much not because there is nothing to say or because I am afraid of speaking. The reason I have not spoken much in the last two years is because, I don't even have to say any-

basis was \$2,180. In 2014, it appreciated by 50 per cent to \$3,099. According to the World Bank, where were we in 2019? \$2,229. At this rate in the next two years in terms of purchasing power parity, the average income of a Nigerian would have gone back to what it was in 1980 under Shehu Shagari. That means, in 40 years, no progress, we made zero progress. 40 years wasted.

"Between 2014 and 2019, on the basis of this index of the purchasing power of the average income of an average Nigerian, we have wiped out all the progress made in 35 years. We have a responsibility as a people to rise and improve the lives of the people of this country.

they are Emirs or civil servants cannot talk. When there is fire, everyone has to go with a bucket of water. We need to understand how our economy works as a people, we need to understand our choices. 70 percent of our challenges in this country from insecurity to herder/farmer clashes, all have their roots in the economy. Even this shout about restructuring is about economics, it is about resources. We need to grow this economy and make it work for the poor people.

"I remember when we started going after the bankers, someone called me and said, you know you are a young man, you don't know what you are doing, you will not succeed. What have we done since then? For three or four of