

# Ugly weekend: 7 die, 3 injured in Lagos

By Ifeanyi Okolie

**L**AGOS—TRAGEDY struck in most part of Lagos State, weekend, when seven persons lost their lives in separate incidents, including an auto crash which claimed the lives of four traders and left three others seriously injured.

Sympathisers wept when the remains of four roadside traders were being pulled from under a trailer with number plate XB 121 FEE, which ran over them along Old Ojo Road, by Agboju Bus Stop.

The 35-year-old driver of the ill-fated truck (names withheld) who is currently in Police custody at Satellite Police Division, was said to have been driving at top speed when he lost control and ran into the traders, whose stalls were in front of the popular Agboju Market.

## Eyewitness account

An eyewitness, Solomon Okolie who spoke with *Van-guard*, said the incident occurred at about 9:30 p.m. He said the truck driver was being chased by some Po-

licemen from Oluti Bus Stop, after he had ran over a jeep and left its occupant injured.

According to Solomon, the truck driver on arriving Agboju Bus Stop, lost control and swerved several times before running over the traders which include two women, simply identified as Mama Uche and Mama Samuel.

## Along Ajah-Epe, too

In a similar incident, two persons, simply identified as Felix and Peter Ahmed, lost their lives in an accident and one other Emeka Onyedima sustained serious injuries. Their car number plate GD 87 EKY, which was said to be moving at high speed, somersaulted repeatedly at Abule-Folly Village along Ajah-Epe Expressway. The injured victim was however rushed to the hospital.

## Electricity pole kills one

Evangelist Favour Amechi lost her life at Olodi Apapa area of Lagos State, when an electrical pole fell on her at 8 Akpiri Street, off Emody

Street, Olodi Apapa.

She was rushed to Tin Can Hospital, Apapa, where she was later confirmed dead. Her body has been deposited at the Isolo General Hospital for autopsy.

However, the Lagos State Police Public Relations Of-

ficer, Mr. Frank Mba, while confirming the report, advised Lagosians to steer clear of all electrical poles and other Power Holdings Company of Nigeria, PHCN, installations and to report all defects to the appropriate authorities.

## Lagos pulls down illegal structures in Agege Abattoir

By Olasunkanmi Akoni & Monsur Olowoopejo

**L**AGOS—AS part of the ongoing removal of illegal structures in the state, Lagos State Government, yesterday, commenced demolition of shanties and other illegal structures at Oko-Oba, Agege Abattoir, Lairage and animal market, which had served as hideout for miscreants and criminals.

Two weeks ago, the government issued an ultimatum to squatters at the abattoir to vacate the premises of the market or face prosecution.

The demolition, according to the government, was part of the effort to reduce the rate

of contagious diseases and funds spent on health care.

A combined team of Police and military personnel, led by Superintendent of Police, Mr Bayo Sulaimon, Chairman of Lagos State Government, Task Force on Environmental and Special Offences, stormed the abattoir at about 5 a.m. with bulldozers and started dislodging squatters an illegal structures.

Sulaimon anchored the exercise on an executive order by Governor Babatunde Fashola on the need to transform the place in conformity with international standards.

He explained that the squatters were duly warned through their leaders and various stakeholders' meetings to vacate the premises, but some of them remained adamant, hence their