

Bad road: Katsina Gov's ADC, 7 others die in auto crash

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By JIDE AJANI & ABAYOMI ADESHIDA

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ABUJA- GOVERNOR Ibrahim Shema of Katsina State, yesterday, survived a fatal accident that claimed the life of

his Aide-de-Camp, ASP Aminu Ibrahim and seven other persons.

The accident occurred on a failed portion of the Katsina/Daura Road when an on-coming vehicle, in an attempt to avoid some bad portions of the road, broke into the governor's convoy.

Tragedy struck Shema's convoy on its way to Daura to receive President Goodluck Jonathan who was at that time being helicoptered to Daura from Gusau in Zamfara State for a campaign rally.

The seven other persons that died were in the commercial bus that ran headlong into the Governor's Ford Jeep.

The dead persons in the bus were described as merchants travelling to a nearby market for trading.

Governor Shema, was immediately rushed to the hospital for treatment and followed on to receive the President and conduct him round some of his projects.

He was, however, said to be in low spirits after the death of his ADC and others in the bus.

Bad portions of the road

The accident occurred on a failed portion of the Katsina/Daura Road when an on-coming vehicle, in an attempt to avoid some bad portions of the road, broke into the governor's convoy.

This unexpected action caused the vehicles in the governor's convoy to suddenly screech to a halt.

Because of the suddenness of the events that followed, and the speed at which the vehicles were running, there was a multiple crash and it was in this process that the security car rammed into the governor's official car directly in front of it.

Officers and men of the Federal Road Safety Commission, FRSC, confirmed one dead. The vehicles were also immediately moved away from the scene of the accident by men of the FRSC.

The moment Governor Shema, who had received treatment for cut in his leg, was discharged from the hospital, he went ahead to receive President Jonathan.

On arrival the campaign team in the company of Governor Shema and President Jonathan proceeded to the palace of the Emir of Daura, Alhaji Umar Farouk Umar, where the President was presented with a white horse.

Later, the President and his entourage proceeded to the State capital where during a courtesy call on the Emir of Katsina, Alhaji Abdulmuminu Kabir Usman, he was presented with another white horse.

Speaking at the somber campaign rally in Katsina, President Jonathan expressed sympathy to the governor over the accident.

Noting the warm reception given him by the two emirs, he said that it symbolised his acceptance even as he noted the role of the deceased former President in his political rise.

He credited Yar'Adua, former President Olusegun Obasanjo and one time Governor of Bayelsa State, Chief Diepreye Alamieyeseigha.

Oshiomhole condoles Shema

Meanwhile, Edo State Governor, Comrade Adams Oshiomhole, has condoled with the Governor of Katsina State, Alhaji Ibrahim Shema, over the unfortunate accident involving his convoy.

He said in an emotion-laden letter: "I wish to convey the commiseration of the people and government of Edo State, as well as my personal condolence over this unfortunate incident.

"We share your deep anguish over the death of such a close and effective confidant and aide. I had met Aminu on a few occasion and do remember him as a charming and resourceful officer, who invested so much energy into his duties."

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