

BY EVELYN USMAN &
DAUD OLATUNJI

3 dead, 9 injured in fresh Lagos, Ogun auto crashes

●Tension in Ikenne, Ilishan over Oro festival during Ramadan

ABEOKUTA—LESS than 24 hours after two accidents involving 39 persons occurred in Sango and Mowe areas of Ogun State, another fatal crash was recorded in Awowo Village, on Abeokuta/Lagos Expressway in the Ewekoro Local Government Area of the state, leaving one dead while nine others were seriously injured.

Relatedly, two artisans were killed, yesterday, on Lagos/Ibadan Expressway after two tyres pulled off from a fast-moving truck and landed on some artisans who were resting in a garden.

Eyewitnesses said the truck with number-plate XP 152 AKD, apparently had a brake failure on approaching CMD Road end of the expressway. It was learnt that, in the driver's bid to control the vehicle, the tyre suddenly pulled off, hit a Nissan car with number-plate FQ 981 EKY, before landing on the artisans.

An eyewitness, who gave the name of one of the victims as Kabiru Okunola, said, "the incident occurred about 10 a.m. as we were all resting in the garden. All of a sudden, we heard someone screaming tyre!tyre! The joined tyres hit Okunola on the head and chest and another person on the groin, killing them on the spot. No fewer than four other persons were also hit. But they did not die. We rushed them to the hospital."

Meanwhile, driver of the truck and the conductor reportedly took to their heels, abandoning the truck on noticing the magnitude of the incident.

The incident caused a hitch in the free flow of traffic, until the arrival of policemen.

Contacted, spokesman for Lagos State Police Command, Ngozi Braide, said she was not aware of the incident.

Confirming the incident in Awowo Village, the Unit Commander of the Federal Road Safety Corps, FRSC, Itori Unit, Mr. Fatai Bakare, said

the accident involved a Mazda bus with number-plate Lagos BU 339 EPE.

The accident occurred about 12:05 p.m.

"The passenger bus was on a very high speed when the tyre got burst and the bus somersaulted thrice, the

nine victims, though on danger list, are still alive and had been taken to hospital."

He added that while the corpse of the deceased had been deposited at mortuary, the injured victims had been taken to Ifo General

Hospital where they are receiving treatment.

Muslims, Oro cultists may clash

Meantime, palpable tension has gripped residents

of Ilishan-Remo and Ikenne in Ikenne Local Government Area of the state following the imminent clash between an Islamic group and Oro cultists.

The two groups might clash on Friday, July 27, as Oro cultists were reportedly said to have ordered a three-day restriction of movement during their seven-day annual celebration.

Vanguard gathered that the ceremony would be held in Ikenne between July 27 and 28 while restriction of movement along with the celebration would be held in Ilishan-Remo between August 3 and 5.

To forestall the crisis, Ogun State Chapter of Muslim Rights' Concern, MURIC, has petitioned the paramount ruler in the area, Oba Michael Sonarino and reportedly copied Governor Ibikunle Amosun, Director of State Security Service, SSS, and Commissioner of Police in the state.

The letter, by the state Coordinator Soliu Lugman, described the gesture as an impending religious crisis, if the festival holds as scheduled with restriction of movement for three days, during the on-going Ramadan fasting period in Remo zone of the state.



From right, Alhaji Lateef Kayode Jakande, former Action Governor of Lagos State; Professor Omolara Bamgboye, DVC, Admin, representing the Vice-Chancellor, Lagos State University, LASU, and Dr. Sola Fosudo, Ag. Director, Centre for Information, Press/PR, LASU, when the institution presented a birthday card to Alhaji Jakande at an event to mark his 83rd birthday at his Ilupeju, Lagos, residence, yesterday. Photo: Shola Oyelese

Ondo State Governor, Dr. Olusegun Mimiko addressing the group members of Timber Merchant Association, Landlord to Landlords Groups and World Changers Foundation when the groups paid him solidarity visit in Akure, yesterday.



Court sacks Ijebu monarch for imposition

BY DAUD OLATUNJI

ABEOKUTA—AN Abeokuta High Court, sitting in Ijebu-Ode, yesterday, sacked Posa of Imosan, Oba Shamusideen Wahabi, for illegally occupying the

throne. It ordered him to vacate the stool immediately.

Delivering judgment on the matter, Justice Sunday Olugbemi, who frowned at the absence of the defendant during the trial, said the complainant had

been able to establish his case beyond doubt.

Wahabi was last November, dragged before a high court by Mr. Kehinde Ogunfowodu, who told the court through his counsel, Mr. Akorede Oduneye, that he

(Wahabi) was illegally occupying the stool.

Oduneye argued that installation of Wahabi was contrary to the chieftaincy and rotational order of appointment to the stool as contained in the 1957 Chieftaincy Title Declaration.

In her ruling, the judge said: "the defendants are hereby perpetually restrained from disorganising the rotational order of appointment of Posa of Imosanland as contained in the 1957 declaration.

"The sitting monarch of Imosanland, Mr. Wahabi, is hereby ordered to vacate the seat as his appointment is declared by the court as null and void."

Olugbemi, however, ordered the regency-in-council to make use of the report of the six-man committee set up to consider who becomes the next Posa of Imosanland.

Tinubu: Mimiko is an ingrate, disrespectful — Akeredolu

BY CHARLES KUMOLU

AKURE—THE Rotimi Akeredolu Campaign

Organisation in Ondo State has berated Governor Olusegun Mimiko for describing National Leader of Action Congress of Nigeria, ACN, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu, as an emperor, describing the statement as a sign of ingratitude.

A statement by its Director of Media and Publicity, Mr. Idowu Ajanaku, called on the Labour Party, LP, to quit mudslinging and focus on issue-based campaign.

He said: "The equally baffling subsequent tactless tirade made by Governor Mimiko, now referring to the much-respected Nigerian democrat and political strategist, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu, as an emperor smirks of gross disrespect and crass ingratitude.

"One only hopes that the transient aroma of political power has not deluded the governor's mind-set into forgetting, so soon, all the moral support he enjoyed from the latter in his most trying times."

PUBLIC NOTICE

CARS FOR SALE

HONDA CRV 2008 MODEL	- 13 MILLION
TOYOTA CAMRY 98 MODEL	- 500,000
NISSAN PATHFINDER 2005 MODEL	- 1.2 MILLION
HONDA IV TECH 2004 MODEL	- 1 MILLION
MAZDA 626 1999 MODEL	- 400,000
TOYOTA TUNDR 2010 MODEL	- 1.6 MILLION
MERCEDES BENZ 190	- 400,000
LEXUS GX 470	- 1.5 MILLION
TOYOTA HILUX 2006 MODEL	- 800,000
HONDA PILOT 2010 MODEL	- 2 MILLION
TOYOTA HIACE 18 SEATER BUS 2006 MODEL	- 700,000