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TRANSLATE:::

Petrol tanker crushes plantain seller, buyer to death in Delta

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By Ochuko Akuopha

Tragedy struck at Ozoro in Isoko North Local Government Area of Delta State, weekend, as two persons, including a plantain seller, were crushed by a petrol tanker.

It was gathered that the woman was selling roasted plantains and yams at her kiosk close to the fence of a filling station in the community, while the other victim had stopped by to buy some of the items when they met their untimely death.

Sources said the tanker had discharged its content and was trying to get out of the premises when it rammed into the fence, pulling it down and crushing the victims.

An eyewitness, who craved anonymity, told *Vanguard* that the driver of the tanker was discussing with one of the pump attendants, when the conductor attempted to pull the heavy duty vehicle out of the filling station.

"The conductor was trying to reverse the vehicle. He lost control and rammed into the fence," the eyewitness said, adding that the victims died on the spot.

"The other victim, a young man, had boarded a motorcycle and was on his way to his community, where he wanted to cast his vote for the presidential and National Assembly elections the next day, but decided to stop and buy some roasted plantain," the eyewitnees added.

Disclosing that the bodies of the deceased had been deposited in a mortuary in the community, he said the conductor was in the custody of the Ozoro Police Divisional headquarters.

Contacted, Divisional Police Officer in charge of the division, Mr. Evans Onomuighokpo, said he had not been properly briefed, but a senior police officer in the division confirmed the incident.

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