

Car crushes 3 students to death, injures 8 others in Niger

By Wole Mosadomi

RESIDENTS of Suleja town in Niger State are still mourning the death of three students of Day Secondary School, Field Base Suleja, Suleja Local Government Area of the state, crushed by a car driver, Monday. It was gathered that 11 students were trekking home on the Suleja-Kaduna road after school hours when an over-speeding vehicle lost control, killed three of them on the spot while eight others sustained injuries.

One of the students killed, Sunday Paul, was an only child of the parents.

Receiving the state Commissioner for Education, Hajiya Hannatu Salihu, who led a delegation from the ministry to visit families of the deceased students in Suleja, yesterday, the school's principal, Hajiya Aishatu Umar, named the deceased as Abdulhafeez Musa, Kariyat Sharafadeen, and Sunday Paul.

She added that Esther Oyeyipo, Eze Solomon, Akachuckwe Kingsley, Faliat Musbaudeen and Ugwo Ugohukwu are still in the hospital receiving medical attention, while Amarachi Onyebuchi, Balkisu Ibrahim and Racheal Okiyose have recovered and discharged.

Speaking during the visit, the state Commissioner for Education, Hajiya Hannatu Salihu, explained that the visit was to share in the pain of parents of the victims and identify with them over the unfortunate incident that led to the death of the innocent students and those receiving treatment at Suleja General Hospital.

She said: "The incident is so painful and tragic as students who were peacefully returning from school to their parents at home met their death and leading to others hospitalised.

"The state government shares in your pain and will be ready to give you a sense of hope, that the deceased students

will not be forgotten. We pray that God will comfort you over the loss."

The commissioner also disclosed that the state government, through the ministry, would give necessary support to victims' families and those receiving treatment to enable them get back on their feet.

She further directed that those injured and who needed advanced treatment

should be referred to IBB Specialist Hospital, Minna.

Salihu then added that the state government would ensure that speed bumps were constructed on the roads to avoid future recurrence of similar incidents.

A parent, Mr Sunday Abba, who lost his only child in the accident, thanked the commissioner for the visit while praying for the soul of his son and those of others to rest in peace.

5 kidnapped Naval college students in Edo still in captivity —Police

●Suspected cultists attack Naval personnel, hand chopped off

By Bose Adelaja & Ozioruva Aliu

BENIN CITY — THE police in Edo State, yesterday, said five of the students of the Naval School of Engineering, Sapele, Delta State who were on Monday kidnapped at Irukepen, along the Benin Ekpoma Road, Edo State, by gunmen are yet to regain their freedom.

The students were said to be travelling in two commercial vehicles from Kaduna to Sapele when the vehicle was hijacked at Irukepen close to the university town of Ekpoma.

Personnel of the Edo State Police Command reportedly swung into action when they were notified and rescued some of the kidnapped victims but five of them were said to have been taken into captivity by their abductors.

The Police Public Relations Officer, Kontongs Bello, however, said contrary to the information in the social media platforms that seven Naval officers were kidnapped along Warri-Sapele Road, it was students of the Naval College of Engineering, Sapele that were involved in the incident.

Suspected cultists attack Naval personnel, chop off hand in Lagos

Meanwhile, suspected cultists, Tuesday, reportedly attacked a Naval personnel at Helicopter Dredger machine area of Baiyeku, Ikorodu, Lagos State, chopped off his hand and took his gun.

It was gathered that the personnel was guiding the helicopter machine on the water when his assailants struck.

Some residents claimed the attack could be a reprisal on the personnel as it was rumoured about two years ago that a black market dealer was allegedly arrested and tortured to death by some suspected Naval personnel.

The suspected cultists were said to have accessed Baiyeku through the waterways although a joint security effort is doing the needful.

However, the personnel is currently receiving medical attention at a public hospital in Lagos.

Details of the incident could not be ascertained but it was gathered that the personnel was attacked at his duty post.