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Runaway trailer kills three

Two of the victims survived an earlier accident

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SUNGAI PETANI, Mon. — There were so many broken hearts today — all because of a freak accident.

There was the family of Mohd Syazwan Amani Abdullah, trying to come to terms with his death only hours after he got married to his 23-year-old sweetheart.

There was the family of Mohamed Jabir Meeramydin, grappling with the news of his death only hours after he received his degree in Business Administration from Universiti Utara Malaysia.

There was the family of Sicilian @ Vannesa Grant Francis, struggling to accept the news that the girl who left Sabah to obtain an education at Universiti Putra Malaysia had died in an accident.

The three were victims of an accident that seemed too far-fetched to imagine.

It happened at 2.50am on the North-South Expressway near here when Mohamed Jabir, who was travelling towards Penang, crashed into a trailer.

The impact caused his car to careen along the divider for several metres before coming to a halt in the middle of the road.

Although badly shaken, Mohamed Jabir, his sister Azizah and her coursemate Sicilian managed to crawl out of the vehicle.

On seeing the accident, Mohd Syazwan Amani stopped his Honda Civic and ran to offer help.

With him was his father-in-law Hanafi Lazim and brother-in-law Mohd Anuar.

About 10 hours earlier, he had performed the *akad nikah* and was planning to have a wedding celebration on the sixth day of Hari Raya Puasa.

Moments later, Ramli Hassan and Mohd Azwan Mohd Salleh also stopped to help the accident victims.

Ramli stopped a passing oil tanker and told the driver to park his vehicle on the emergency lane and beam the headlights on the scene of the accident.

By this time, all the three accident victims had y been pulled aside to safety on the emergency lane and were waiting for the arrival of the ambulance.

Suddenly, a trailer rammed into the tanker and swung out of control.

The trailer, laden with cosmetics, then rammed into Mohd Syazwan Amani's and Ramli's cars, which were parked on the emergency lane.

The trailer then ploughed into Mohd Syazwan Amani, Mohamed Jabir and Sicilian.

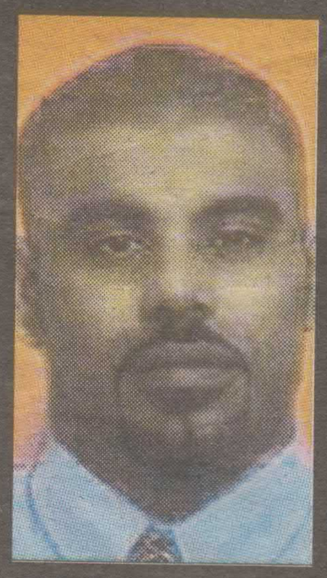
Azizah escaped the runaway trailer, Ramli broke his ribs after being hit by the cars while Hanapi, Mohd Anuar and Mohd Azwan suffered slight injuries.

Kuala Muda district traffic and public order chief Deputy Superintendent Hatta Mohd Zain said police detained the 40-year-old driver of the trailer after he lodged a report at the Sungai Petani police station at 10am.

The driver will be charged with reckless driving and causing death.

If found guilty, he could be jailed between two and 10 years or fined between RM5,000 and RM20,000.

THE DEAD



MOHAMED JABIR

MOHD SYAZWAN AMANI

SICILIAN

WRECKED: Hatta taking a closer look at the runaway trailer.