

Patience Saves Lives

Impatience can be fatal, and never more so than on the road. Waiting 30 seconds or even less can mean the difference between life and death, yet so many people seem reluctant to pause even for a moment. Seemingly, their time is more important than their life. Unwilling to slow down a car even slightly, a driver might instead choose to swerve dangerously to overtake the vehicle in front, to arrive at their destination only a few seconds earlier – or simply to spend more time waiting at the next red light.

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This can be seen every day in Vietnam; it may seem normal after a while, but to a new arrival it is the height of insanity. A bus pauses to turn, and motorcyclists will steer inches in front of it, saving themselves mere moments by risking death by crushing. Motorbikes will try to 'beat' a red light and will risk dying in a collision at a junction. It is stunning to arrive in Vietnam for the first time only to witness two motorcyclists crushed beneath a truck's wheels on an otherwise empty road because they simply would not wait until it was safe.

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What kinds of dangerous choices do drivers make to save a few seconds of their time?

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Can a bus driver see you if you ride in front of or behind a moving bus?

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What is the most insane thing you have seen someone do on Vietnam's roads?