

8 killed, 16 injured in ghastly accident

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NO fewer than eight persons were, feared dead and 16 others critically injured, yesterday following an early morning multiple ghastly motor accidents' at Berger Bridge, on Lagos-Ibadan Expressway.

An eyewitness told *Daily Champion* yesterday that the multiple auto crash, involving a trailer, with number plate Lagos - XY 182KJA, an 18-seater white commercial Mazda bus, marked XC 165 REE and a truck allegedly owned by Guinness Nigeria Plc, occurred yesterday at 12:10am

Our reporter learnt that a truck allegedly hit the trailer laden with cement, heading for Ibadan, on the left side, before ramming into the stationary Mazda bus on the far right side.

The witness who identified himself as Alfa Isa Oyeladun, said the truck pulled the bus right from the road side up to Uncle standby Odesanya Avenue, and ran through the plastic sellers who were then sleeping.

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The commercial bus driver identified as Mr. Lateef was said to be sleeping in his bus after taking "Amala" popular Yoruba staple when he was hit "He died. Mama "Alamala", who sold the food to him, the driver of the trailer and some of the traders that sell plastics here also died on the spot," Oyeladun recounted.

He however said that

8 killed

immediately the accident happened, the driver of the Guinness truck sped off, but was chased by the Police "we wouldn't know whether they caught him or not," the source said.

Another source hinted our reporter that it was the first time Lateef brought his vehicle to Lagos, having restricted his operations to Osun State.

Confirming the accident to the *Daily Champion*, A Chief Superintendent of Police [CSP], Mr. Michael Adeniyi said "we have been here since 12 midnight; we are trying to hear from both parties."

He however told our reporter that the deceased have been deposited at the Ikeja General Hospital, adding that the wounded victims have since been taken to various hospitals in Lagos and Ogun states.