Accident claims 12 lives in Kaduna

o fewer than 12 people died yester day in an accident on Kagoro-Manchok road in Kaura Local Government Area of Kaduna State, eyewitnesses said.

The witnesses told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) that 10 people died at the scene of the accident, while two later died at Kafanchan General Hospital.

They said the accident occurred when a Toyota Corolla car with registration number Jigawa AE 414-YKS collided with an ash coloured Honda saloon car in the early hours of the day.

NAN learnt that the accident occurred when one of the vehicles, suspected to be running away from the police, collided with the other.

Eyewitnesses said the police team, on a motorcycle, abandoned the chase when the accident occurred. Following the deaths, aggrieved youths in Kaura attacked a police out-post at Manchok, destroying vital documents in addition to burning a police patrol pick-up van and the national flag.

Mr Kumai Badu, the Chair-

man, Interim Management Committee, Kaura Local Government, called on the youths not to take the law into their hands.

He pledged the local government's support to the families of the accident victims.

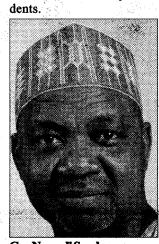
The Chief of Moro'a, Malam Tagwai Sambo, described the deaths as pathetic but condemned the burning of the police vehicle and documents.

Efforts to contact the Assistant Commissioner of police in-charge of Kafanchan Command, failed as he was said to be out to monitor the PDP primary elections in the

area.

A police source in Kaura, however, confirmed the incident and blamed it on overspeeding by the drivers.

The FRSC Zonal Commander in Kafanchan, Mr Ado Yusuf, said the deaths were unfortunate and cautioned motorists to drive with care during the festive season to avoid unnecessary accidents.



Gov Namadi Sambo