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Two burnt to death in auto crash

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Written by Abubakar Sadiq Isah MONDAY, 29 DECEMBER 2008

Two persons were in the early hours of Thursday morning burnt to death in a ghastly motor accident that occurred at Yaba junction, along Abuja-Lokoja highway.

Eye witnesses, who put the time of the accident at 2.15 am, said it involved a J5 Peugeot bus that carried bags of tomatoes and was speeding.

"The driver of the J5 bus with registration number XA 647 CRC lost control of his vehicle and crashed into a tree, after which the bus caught fire, burning two of its occupants," the witness said.

Also confirming the accident, Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) Abaji Unit Commander, Mr Joseph Ojerinde, said the driver of the J5 bus was travelling from Zaria to Benin on high speed and in the process lost control and crashed into a tree.

According to him, the driver and one other passenger sitting in front were trapped when the bus crashed and caught fire.

"The two burnt to death as there was nobody around to rescue them, and from our findings, we learnt that the accident happened in the middle of the night and it was only at 6 am that we got information about the accident but before we arrived the scene, they were burnt to death," the unit commander explained.

He said the two corpses have been evacuated to the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital Morgue by rescue team officials of the Abaji Unit Command of the FRSC.

Similarly, the FRSC unit commander further disclosed that 10 persons were injured in another accident that occurred on the same day near Bulletin Construction Company in Abaji.

He said the accident involved a Toyota Hiace bus with registration number XA 125 BGD and a Volkswagen Golf car with registration number AA 938 SUA.

According to him, the five males, three females and two kids that sustained injuries in the crash have been taken to Abaii General Hospital.

Mr. Ojerinde blamed the driver of the bus for overtaken in a dangerous manner while on top speed.

He said in the process of overtaken, the bus driver lost control and rammed into the Golf car that was coming from the opposite direction.

City News also learnt that in another accident that happened on Friday morning at Gegu Village, three persons were injured.

An eye witness said the accident occurred when the driver of a bus overtook while on high speed, and later lost control.

"The driver crashed into a ditch, injuring three persons on spot," the witness added.

He said the three victims were rushed to the hospital by officials of the FRSC.

FRSC Abaji unit commander blamed the driver of the bus for driving recklessly.

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