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Three die in Abaji auto crash

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

THREE persons died while 12 others sustained various degrees of injuries Friday morning in a fatal accident that occurred at Manderegi village, near Abaji town along the Abuja-Lokoja highway.

An eyewitness said the accident occurred at about 6:30 am when a Mazda bus with registration number XX 309 RBC, conveying 15 passengers overtook dangerously and lost control and rammed into a stationary luxury bus from behind, killing three persons on the spot.

Confirming the accident, the Abaji Unit Commander of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), Mr. Joseph Ojerinde, who blamed the accident on the bus driver for dangerous overtaking, disclosed that the corpses have been deposited at the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital.

He said the 12 injured passengers were rushed to Abaji General Hospital for treatment.

Similarly, a youth corps member, Franca Okoro, lost her life also on the same day in another accident that occurred at Omoko village along the Abuja-Lokoja highway.

According to eyewitness, the accident happened at about 4:30pm when a Toyota Hiace bus with registration number XA 767 RBC, belonging to Peace Mass Transit, overtook dangerously at a sharp bend and lost control, crashing into a DAF truck with registration number XA 866 RAM, killing the corps member on the spot.

Our reporter gathered at the scene of the crash that the youth corps member was a medical doctor by profession and was travelling from Benin to Abuja, to report at her place of primary assignment when the accident happened.

The Abaji FRSC unit commander, Mr. Ojerinde, while commenting on the incident, blamed the bus driver for reckless driving, saying the corpse has been deposited at the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital Morgue.

When City News visited the hospital, one of the mortuary attendants disclosed that the corpse of the corps member was collected on Saturday by relatives for burial.

Mr. Ojerinde further disclosed that three people also sustained serious injuries, Saturday afternoon in a mul-

tiple accident that occurred at Omoko village on the same road.

According to him, the accident involved three vehicles which include a Toyota Corolla car with registration number AA 386 ABC, a Mercedes Benz truck with registration number XQ 471 ABC and a Toyota Hiace bus with registration number XB 386 GGE.

The unit commander, who said the multiple crashes were caused by the bus driver, said the three injured passengers were rushed to Abaji General Hospital for treatment.