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## Six PDP members die in Abaji auto crash

## By Abubakar Sadig Isah

FOUR officials of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in Abaji as well as two members of the party lost their lives Monday evening in a ghastly motor accident that occurred at Awawa Village, along the Abuja-Lokoja highway.

Our reporter learnt that the PDP ward chairmen of Abaji north-east ward, Agyana-Pandagi ward, Abaji central ward and south-east ward, all died in the crash.

An eyewitness said the accident

occurred when a Honda car with registration number FS 501 LND overtook dangerously and collided with an Opel car with registration number AH 286 ABJ, killing five persons on the spot.

The witness said one other victim later died after he was rushed to University of Abuja Teaching Hospital by officials of the Abaji unit command of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC).

Alhaji Haruna S. Kaura, ward chairman representing Nuku-Sabon-Gari, disclosed that they were returning from a party's

meeting at Gwagwalada when the incident occurred.

According to him, the meeting was attended by all the 10 ward chairmen of Abaji, Kwali, Kuje, Gwagwalada and the senator representing FCT, Senator Adamu Sidi Ali, after which N10, 000 was given to the participants at the end of the meeting.

He said the participants left the meeting venue in a convoy of vehicles and on approaching Dangara junction, noticed traffic hold up caused by the accident that led to the death of six of their colleagues. The ward chairman lamented further that all ward chairmen received notices on Sunday that one Honourable Isah Egah Dobi, a member representing their constituency wanted to hold a meeting with them, adding that to the surprise of all the chairmen who waited for a while, Senator Sidi Ali walked in and pleaded that he was the one that summoned the meeting and later gave them N10, 000 each at the end of the meeting.

The Abaji unit commander of FRSC, Mr. Joseph Ojerinde, while confirming the accident, blamed the driver of the Honda vehicle for

dangerous overtaking. He said the driver escaped after the accident and has not been seen.

The FRSC commander also revealed that the six corpses have been handed over to the relatives of the deceased for burial.

Abaji Council Chairman, Alhaji Yahaya Musa Mohammad also expressed shock over the incident and said the deceased devoted their time to the party's progress.

He urged their families to accept their loss in good faith, assuring that the council will look for ways to assist them.