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13 die in multiple accidents

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SUNDAY, 28 MARCH 2010 22:19

THIRTEEN persons, including four children Thursday afternoon lost their lives in a fatal motor accident that occurred at Gada-Biyu village, along the Abuja-Lokoja road.

Our reporter learnt that 18 other persons that sustained various degrees of injuries were rushed to the hospital by a rescue squad, which comprised of police, civil defence and Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) officials.

An eye witness said the accident involved a Mercedes Benz truck with registration number XA 777 MGU, a Toyota Hiace bus with registration number ED 62B-28 that belongs to Edo Mass Transit and a Toyota Hiace bus with registration number XZ 664 KJA, belonging to Kogi Line Mass Transit.

The witness said one of the buses that wrongly overtook lost control and rammed into a stationery truck loaded with cement, thereby killing 12 passengers on the spot.

"The rest of the injured passengers in the bus and another bus were rushed to Abaji General Hospital by FRSC official, where one of them later died the next day.

Commenting on the incident, Yangoji's FRSC unit Commander, Abdullahi Umar, said the accident was caused by a stationary truck on the road that was loaded with bags of cement.

According to him, '43 persons were involved in the multiple crash that claimed the lives of seven males and five females, which consisted of four children'.

"All the corpses were taken to the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital's Morgue, while the 18 injured passengers were rushed to Kwali and Abaji General Hospitals for treatment.

The unit commander disclosed that the assistance of a construction firm (RCC Construction Company) was sought to remove the stationary truck from the road.

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