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Friday, Jul 16th | Last update 11:00:00 PM GMT | **Headlines:** Katsina moves to prevent health workers' strike

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Accident claims 13 in Niger

Friday, 16 July 2010 00:00

Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna



About 13 people died yesterday when the driver of an 18 seater bus lost control of the vehicle as a result of a burst tyre along the Begi, Kontagora Expressway in **Niger** State.

The occupants were said to be on their way to Kontagora for an Islamic religious obligation when the bus with mostly women and children somersaulted several times. A survivor, Malam Musa Yerima who is presently nursing injuries sustained from the **accident** told Daily Trust that while they were travelling, they heard a sudden bang from the front tyre of the vehicle and the car started to swerve dangerously.

He said the driver tried desperately to control the bus which was bumping violently, but the attempt was useless as the bus tumbled several times, killing **12** persons.

Yarima, who is an employee of the Shariah Commission in **Niger** State, said the bus which belongs to the commission was on its way to Kontagora for a religious meeting when the incident occurred at Begi.

Niger State Zonal Commander of the Federal Road Safety Corps Mr Sylvester Dalok said the crash which occurred at about 1pm yesterday was as a result of over loading and over speeding. He maintained that the vehicle which was manufactured to carry only 18 passengers was packed above its capacity with as many as 30 passengers which caused the tyre burst. He explained that to worsen the situation, the driver who was over-speeding couldn't control the car when the tyre burst.

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