10 killed, 2 injured in Benue road mishap

From Toryila Kajo, Makurdi

A fatal motor accident involving an 18 seater bus and a truck near the NYSC Orientation Camp, Wannune in Tarka Local Government Area of Benue State, yesterday killed 10 people and injured 2 others who now are lying critically ill at a Gboko hospital.

An eyewitness told Daily Trust that a Makurdi-based transport company, Pleasure Travel's bus was overtaking

another vehicle when it ran into a trailer that was coming from Gboko towards Makurdi killing passengers, most of them students in their school uniforms.

Residents of the community were said to have covered the corpses removed from the bus with leaves before the arrival of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) officials who later evacuated them to Saint Christopher's Hospital, Wannune.

The father of one of the victims, Mr.

Gabriel Uko, told our correspondent that his son, Master Lubem Uko, an 11-yearold JSS 2 student of Federal Government College, Vandeikya was returning to school that fateful Sunday when he got the news about his death at about 3.am.

Mr. Uko said Master Lubem was his only male child but he has left everything to God who knows why his life was cut short through a motor accident. He prayed for the repose of the souls of those who lost their lives in the accident.

The Sector Commander of the FRCS in Benue State, Mr. Sunday Oghenekaro who confirmed the accident to our correspondent, said out of the number of deaths recorded nine were males, three females while two others were injured with only one person coming out unhurt.

He said FRSC operation officers were still investigating the cause of the accident and charged motorists to be cautious while plying the road this 'ember' period to avoid accidents.