

THE WORLD NEWS II

12 killed as bus rams into trailer at Kwaita village

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The scene of an accident, where 12 people lost their lives at Kwaita village along Abuja-Lokoja highway early yesterday morning.

Tragedy struck in the wee hours of yesterday where 12 passengers lost their lives, while eight others sustained various degrees of injuries in a motor accident at Kwaita village, on the Abuja-Lokoja expressway.

A witness said the accident happened around 1:23 a.m. when an 18-seater Toyota Hiace bus with registration number DKA 632 XA, veered off the road, after one of its tyres burst and rammed into an oncoming Daf trailer with registration number XA 379 BLE.

He said the bus summersaulted three times after the driver lost control of his steering and it collided with the trailer, which was carrying timber from the opposite direction.

“When I heard the loud sound, I rushed to find out what was happening and immediately placed a call to the officials of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) at Yangoji, who came to convey both injured and the dead people to hospital,” he said.

Our reporter, who was at the scene at about 8: 12 a.m. yesterday morning, saw wreckage of the bus and the trailer by the side of the road, while some of the passengers’ luggage littered the road.

However, the bus’ passengers manifest found at the scene by our reporter showed that 15 passengers were on board and they were all males travelling from Zaria to Warri, Delta State.

The passenger’s names on the manifest are, Murtala Ismail, Malami, Murtala Falalu, Enoch Olorunfemi, Isah Isah Ibrahim, Nuhu, Umaru, Hassan Abdullahi, Idrisu Abubakar, Umar, Usman, Nura D., Shehu, Auwalu and Hassan Umaru.

When contacted, Yangoji unit commander of the FRSC, Austine Chukwudi Okeke, confirmed the accident, saying 12 persons lost their lives.

He said the corpses and the injured victims had been taken to the Kwali General Hospital, adding that three of the five injured victims were in the trailer.

The FRSC commander, who attributed the accident to over speeding and night journey, warned motorists to avoid night travel.