

10 die in Ondo auto accident

NO fewer than 10 people died on Wednesday night in a tragic road accident at Eleyowo Village, along Akure-Owo Road in Ondo State, when a driver lost control of his truck and had a head-on collision with an on-coming 18-seater bus.

Also, over 3,000 people in Akungba Akoko and its environs have been rendered homeless following a heavy rainstorm that wreaked havoc on the university community and some neighbouring towns in Akoko South-West area of Ondo State.

A witness told *The Guardian* that the road

*From Julius Alabi and
Niyi Bello, Akure*

mishap, which occurred at about 10:00 p.m. was caused by the truck loaded with malt drinks, which swerved into another lane and had a head-on collision with the Owo-bound 18-passenger commuter bus.

It was learnt that six other passengers who were seriously injured were rushed to an undisclosed hospital for treatment while the remains of the 10 victims have been deposited in a mortuary.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO),

Adeniran Aremu (ASP), confirmed the incident.

He advised motorists to be more careful while behind the wheels, especially during this Easter Season.

The ravaging storm, which hit the university's community, removed rooftops of about 60 houses and displaced many people.

Speaking with *The Guardian* shortly after the incident yesterday, the only Alliance for Democracy (AD) lawmaker in the State House of Assembly representing the constituency, Mr. Abiodun Ogunbi, expressed shock at the

extent of the damage.

According to him, the destruction was unprecedented in the history of the community.

Ogunbi urged the state government and the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to assist the victims in settling down temporarily, as the inhabitants of the area are predominantly farmers who could not afford to bear the loss.

The lawmaker, during an on-the-spot assessment of the damage, said without assistance from relevant agencies, it would be difficult for the affected citizens to cope with life.