

18 die in Agbor bus collision

THEY had set out to attend a debating competition in Benin, but the journey from Agbor to Benin proved fatal yesterday for about 12 students of Christ The King School, Agbor when the 18-seater commuter bus conveying them became involved in a head-on collision with another bus that resulted in the death of about 20 persons.

It was at Abudu, a town along the Benin - Asaba expressway that the fatal accident occurred when the front tyre of a Toyota Hiace bus going to Agbor suddenly burst and the driver lost control of the vehicle. The vehicle thereafter veered across the road towards a fatal crash into the other bus.

According to a police officer at the site, all the four people in the Hiace bus, which was loaded with foodstuffs, died in the accident, while only four among the 18 people on the students bus survived the accident.

The accident scene was littered with parts of the buses and a police team, drafted to the scene, was joined by local people to pack the bodies into a Volvo Station Wagon car which carried them off to the Agbor mortuary.

Buses plying the route mostly stopped at the scene, while the drivers and passengers all rushed to view the carnage.