

13 die in auto crash

THIRTEEN persons were at the weekend feared dead in a motor accident at Oko Olowo, Ilorin/ Jebba Road when a truck ran into a passengers' 18-seater bus.

The accident left nine others seriously injured. They were rushed to the emergency wing of the University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital (UITH) for treatment.

Witnesses said the driver of the truck overtook another truck on a hilly part of the narrow road. In the process, he lost control and rammed into the bus.

Thirteen of the passengers in the bus died on the spot while five others were wounded. Four occupants of the truck were also critically injured with one alleged to have suffered a first degree of spinal cord injury.

The accident occurred at about 4 p.m.

Although, spokesman of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) in the state, Mr. Sunday Ezeruike, could not be reached for confirmation of the casualty figure, UITH Chief Medical Director, Dr. Suleiman Kuranga, said some accident victims were rushed to the hospital. A official of the mortuary unit told *The Guardian* that 13 bodies of the victims had been deposited at the morgue.