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Friday, July 03, 2009

Two-year-old baby, others die in Delta auto-crash

From Hendrix Oliomogbe, Asaba

AN afternoon auto-crash at Edo-Ogwashi, Aniocha South Local Council of Delta State, has claimed the lives of eight persons, including a two-year-old baby.

According to eyewitnesses, the accident occurred when a 16-seater Toyota mini-bus lost control, somersaulted and crashed into the bush along the busy Benin-Asaba Expressway.

However, 10 occupants of the bus survived the mishap with various injuries. They are currently receiving treatment at the Federal Medical Centre, Asaba.

The ill-fated Lagos-bound bus, marked XK909UWN with the inscription: "Jehovah Bu Eze", had set off from Enugu in the morning but crashed at about 12:45 p.m. when one of the back tyres pulled off.

Its passengers' personal possessions were strewn across the highway while officials of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) and some policemen came to the scene to take charge of the incident.

The state FRSC Sector Commander, Oluwasosin Familoni, attributed the accident to alleged over-speeding.

Another official of the commission alleged that driver of the bus refused to stop when he was flagged down at a checkpoint some metres away from the crash scene.

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