

14 feared dead in accident

From **Owen Akenzua**, Asaba

NO fewer than 14 persons were feared dead in a multiple road accident near the popular River Orhuahe on the Benin-Asaba/Onitsha Expressway.

A witness said the accident involved two trailers and one 18-seater bus. One of the trailers' driver allegedly lost control while descending the river hill against traffic.

The incident forced motorists using the expressway from either Onitsha or the eastern parts to Benin City and Lagos to drive through the bad spots, thereby driving against traffic.

It was gathered that the two trailers loaded with bags of cement collided, as they both rammed into the 18-seater bus where the occupants were feared killed on the spot.

Sympathisers thronged the head bridge of the river lamenting the horrendous incident.

The Guardian learnt that officials of the Federal Road Safety

Commission (FRSC) had last weekend warned motorists against driving one-way, especially with the influx of long vehicles plying the expressway.

One of the residents of Orhuahe community, who spoke with *The Guardian*, blamed the accident on the two trailers' drivers, saying that the trucks belonging to a popular businessman (names withheld) had been known to be notorious in "killing" people.

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