

National

16 burnt to ashes in Osun auto crash

By Timothy Agbor, Osogbo

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*[FILES] Scene of an accident. PHOTO: NAN*

• FRSC Blames Explosion On Gas Cylinder In One Of The Vehicles

No fewer than 16 passengers were burnt to death in Ode-Omu, Ayeedade Local Council of Osun State when a gas cylinder in the vehicle exploded, leading to fire outbreak.

The Guardian gathered that the fatal accident occurred, on Friday, in Ode-Omu, after two vehicles collided. It was gathered that a commercial Mazda bus coming from Osogbo had a collision with a private Lexus car coming from Ikorodu, Lagos State but was heading to Osogbo.

The Mazda, which had a gas cylinder in its trunk, lost control immediately it was hit by the Lexus, and swerved into a bush, where it ignited fire. One of the eyewitnesses disclosed that 16 bodies, including five children, were removed from

the burnt vehicle, while three passengers and the driver of the affected bus, escaped with injuries.

Other casualties included a security agent and a member of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC).

Reacting, Agnes Ogungbemi, the Osun Sector Public Education Officer of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), said official casualty figure was not yet ascertained, adding that the injured had been taken to a hospital.

She said: “There is no detail for now. We have not been able to ascertain the number of those who have died. But, the injured have been taken to Ise Oluwa Medical Centre, Odeomu. One of the vehicles that carried a gas cylinder exploded and caused the fire outbreak.”

Meanwhile, officials of FRSC visited the scene, assembled the burnt victims and evacuated them to the morgue.

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