

Auto Crash Claims 13 In Onitsha

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At least 13 people were feared dead in a lone motor accident at the Oba end of the Owerri – Onitsha Road.

The accident occurred on Tuesday when a 15-seater

Mitsubishi bus conveying passengers from Nnewi to Onitsha, the commercial nerve of Anambra State, somersaulted near the Idemili River. The vehicle burst into flames, killing all but two of its passengers.

The driver and the “conductor” also died in the accident.

Witnesses said the bus, on top of speed, lost one of its front tyres. In an attempt to bring the vehicle to a stop, the driver applied the brakes.

This, however, proved fatal.

The vehicle somersaulted several times before bursting into flames.

Passers-by had hectic time

pulling out the dead and the survivors from the wreckage.

There was a long queue of vehicles coming from the Owerri end of the road to Onitsha. This caused a heavy traffic jam, which forced commuters to trek to Upper Iweka, Onitsha. Sympathisers wept uncontrollably at the scene of the accident.

The survivors and the bodies extracted from the wreckage were taken to a nearby private hospital at the Upper Iweka area.

At press time, officials of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) could not be reached for comments on the accident.