

# 60 Die In Accident On Lagos-Sagamu Expressway

By Segun Adeleye, Abeokuta

No fewer than 60 people were burnt to death in an accident that occurred along Lagos-Sagamu Expressway on Friday night.

An eyewitness said the accident occurred when a fuel tanker lost control at top speed and ran into a pothole before catching fire.

The eyewitness said the tanker driver's attempts to control the vehicle failed because of over-speeding.

The road which had become slippery as a result of incessant rain did not help matters too.

At the scene of the accident on Saturday, officers of the state accident rescuing agency were seen combing the surrounding for the remains of the victims, who were burnt beyond recognition.

Commuters spent many

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hours on the road on Saturday because of the hold-up that occurred after the accident.

As at 9 am on Saturday, the burnt vehicles, which included a fuel tanker, three 18-seater commercial buses and a Mitsubishi car were still blocking the dual-carriage way.

Passengers were stranded at Ojota, Ketu and Berger motor parks as vehicles spent many hours on the road.

The problem was worsened by a trailer which broke down at Mowe end of the road.

When our correspondent visited the scene of the accident on Saturday, officers of the Federal Roads Safety Corps were seen directing traffic.

In an interview with our correspondent, the Police Public Relations Officer in the state, Mr. Olufemi Awoyale, said police would continue directing traffic on the road until the situation improved.

Meanwhile, members of the public who thronged Olabisi Onabanjo Teaching University (OOUTH), Sagamu, to identify the victims of the accident left disappointed as they were told by a mortuary attendant that they were not brought there.

A man who identified himself as Baba Waidi told *Sunday Independent* that his wife, who traveled along the route, must have been involved in the accident, as she had not been seen.