

Auto Crash Kills Zabgai FC Official, Several Wounded

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Few months after Wunti FC of Bauchi was involved in a motor accident and lost some of its players, another Bauchi-based club, Zabgai Inter FC, has lost its Secretary, Musa Jafaru, to an auto crash while travelling with the team to Gombe to honour a national Amateur league tie with Doma United FC of Gombe.

Wunti had lost six of its players along Kano road on its way to honour a league date with Bank of the North FC.

Eye witnesses told *Daily Independent* that the accident which involved the Zabgai club occurred at Inkil village about 20 km from Bauchi. According to them, two of the players and another club official, Aminu Bello, an assistant coach were lying critically ill at the Bauchi Specialist Hospital while the rest had been treated and discharged.

They disclosed that the players and officials were in high spirits when they left Bauchi on the fateful day not knowing the calamity that awaited them on the way as one red Toyota Corolla was said to have rammed into them forcing the bus to skid off the road into a nearby bus and somersaulted several times before stopping.

The club was said to have been managing its bus that was old to honour away matches

with the hope that it would top the group and gain promotion to the pro league cadre next football season. Then would the club seek the state government's assistance in getting another bus.

Reacting to the accident, Zabgai Inter FC Chairman, Yakubu Saidu Jahun, expressed shock saying that it is one accident too many for Bauchi football clubs.

A shocked and confused Jahun declared that, "It is high time we stopped playing football in Bauchi because we have had too many fatal accidents that have claimed innocent lives that were at their prime."

He however consoled the family of the dead club secretary praying Allah to grant his family and friends the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss.

Also, Bauchi State Director of Sports, Haruna Bako, has consoled both the club and the family of the dead official urging them to take heart and accept it as an act of Allah which he said is beyond the comprehension of any mortal, and wished the injured persons quick recovery.

Meanwhile, Bauchi State Council of SWAN has expressed their sympathies over the death of Jafaru, describing the accident as very shocking especially coming so soon on the heels of that of Wunti FC.

In a condolence letter signed by its state secretary, Nasiru Abdullahi Kobi, SWAN urged the club management to take heart and prayed for fortitude for them to bear the loss.