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Daily Independent (Lagos)

**Nigeria: Auto Crash Claims One at Auchi**

Francis Onoiribhola

31 May 2011

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Benin — An autocrash that occurred at Ewu slope on the Benin-Auchi expressway has claimed a life, leaving many passengers seriously injured.

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The accident happened at about 9:30a.m when a trailer crashed into four other cars. Eyewitness account said the accident was caused by the activities of park operators, popularly called "agberos".

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According to an eyewitness, one of the "agberos" had chased a private car for allegedly picking a passenger along the way without their approval.

The eyewitness said the park operator caught-up with the private vehicle at the slope and blocked it with his car causing a queue of about four cars on the highway.

He lamented that the trailer, apparently oblivious of the incident, ran over the vehicles, as it could not apply instant brake.

One of the "agberos," who was interrogating the private car driver, reportedly died on the way to the Irrua Specialist Teaching Hospital, and his remains was deposited at the morgue of the hospital.

Other victims of the accident who were severely injured are currently receiving treatment at ISTH.

Men of the Operation ThunderStorm, set-up by the Edo State government, helped convey the dead and injured victims to the Irrua Specialist Teaching Hospital.

When this reporter visited the scene, the wreckage of vehicles involved in the accident were being cleared off the road by men of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC).

Foodstuff, including garri, yams and fruits, sold by some women along the Benin-Auchi road that were destroyed during the accident, littered the road.

Ewu slope is now regarded as death trap, following series of accidents that have occurred at the spot.

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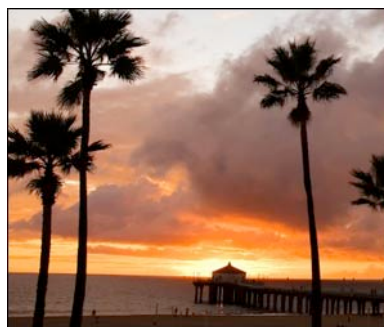
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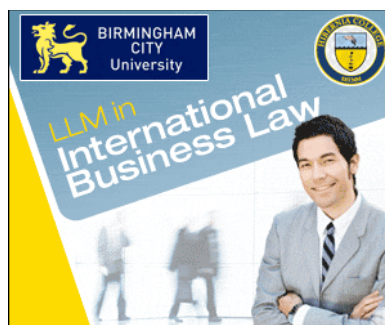
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