

# News

**Federal Psychiatric Hospital workers, management at war in Benin**

**By Francis Onoiribhola**  
Ag. Bureau Chief, Benin

**ACTIVITIES** at the Federal Psychiatric Hospital, Uselu in Edo State were held up for several hours on yesterday following the work to rule action embarked upon by the nurses and senior staff of the hospital against the management, accusing it of high handedness, harassment of union leaders, non-payment of workers outstanding arrears and allowances, among others.

But the protesting workers' claims were strongly objected to by the Chief Medical Director (CMD) of the hospital, Dr. (Mrs) Olabisi Ihenyen, who told Journalists that all their allegations lacked substance as the hospital was not owing any staff any payment.

## 11 people killed in auto crash along Benin-Ore Road

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**NO FEWER** than 11 people, including two children, lost their lives in a fatal motor accident by Okada junction axis of Benin-Ore-Lagos highway on Wednesday.

The accident was said to have occurred at about 4 p.m., involving a commercial bus belonging to Peace Mass Transit Company and a truck conveying some unidentified goods towards the Lagos end of the road.

Reports had it that among those who lost their lives was a couple who were allegedly go-

ing for their wedding arrangement, and another woman who was going for burial and the remains were evacuated from the ill-fated bus by men of the Federal Road Safety Corps who later arrived at the scene of the accident.

According to one of the four survivors of the accident, Anthony Ndubuisi, a South Africa-based footballer who spoke to newsmen at the accident and emergency unit of University of Benin Teaching Hospital (UBTH), the Onitsha-bound bus took off at Oju Elegba Motor Park in Lagos with 17 passengers including two small children belonging to two of

the adult passengers.

Ndubisi, who plies his trade with Jomo Cosmos FC of South Africa, also said the accident could be attributed to over speeding and recklessness on the part of the driver.

He said that the driver, who allegedly escaped unhurt, was travelling on the opposite lane and was overtaking another vehicle on top speed, and ran into a trailer that was coming on top speed in the opposite direction.

"Thad wanted to travel with another transport company, but they told me that Peace Mass Transit Company was cheaper. I was going to Asaba

to finalise arrangements for a trip to Europe where I hope to pursue my career. Just see where I end up," he stated.

National Co-ordinator of Save Accident Victims of Nigeria (SAVAN), Dr. Eddy Ehikhamenor, who also spoke to newsmen at the UBTH said 10 of the casualties were brought in dead, while the eleventh passenger, a young boy died in the hospital and decried the incessant cases of accidents at that very particular spot of Okada junction of the road which he said shows that some of the drivers have no regards for human lives by not driving with care.