

AUTO CRASH: 9 Dead In Ebonyi

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Nine persons, including the driver and three members of one family, are feared dead in an auto crash that happened in Ishiagu, Ivo local government area of Ebonyi State at about 8pm yesterday.

An eyewitness who spoke to LEADERSHIP, Mr John Okochi, said the accident occurred when an articulated vehicle and a fully loaded 18-seater bus with 18 passengers on board coming from opposite directions had a head-on collision resulting in the death of nine occupants of the vehicles.

According to him, the crash happened along Ishiagu-Awgu road at Ezietor in Amaeze community in Ishiagu, Ivo local government area

of Ebonyi.

Okochi whose relative was involved in the crash said that the articulated vehicle with registration number Anambra JJT143XA, coming from Ishiagu had a collision with an 18-Seater bus with registration number Edo SGD541SA returning from Enugu.

He said the driver and eight others died on the spot while the other victims who sustained various degrees of injuries were taken to a nearby hospital for treatment.

He said all the victims were indigenes of Ishiagu community returning from Enugu in Enugu State.

Okochi who blamed the incident on poor visibility occasioned by a heavy downpour in the community on the night of the crash said

the entire community had been thrown into mourning.

"The accident is indeed a fatal one and as I talk to you, nine persons died on the spot and their corpses have been deposited at a mortuary in Akinukwa in Aninri LGA of Enugu State.

"Others who sustained various degrees of injuries were taken to Nyeche hospital in Amaeze community, Ishiagu in Ivo local government area. All the victims are indigenes of Ishiagu and the entire community have been thrown into mourning," Okochi said.

When contacted, the Ishiagu Unit Commander of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Mr Joseph Abuo, confirmed the incident, said investigation is still on ascertain the cause of the accident.