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10 dead in Christmas Day crashes

27/12/2008

Bode durojaiye, Oyo and Okungbowa Aiwerie, Asaba

No fewer than six persons lost their lives in an accident involving a 10-seater bus at the low-cost housing estate point along Oyo / Ogbomoso road.

The accident, according to officials of the unit 5 of the Federal Road Safety Commission who were on rescue mission, occurred when a 10-seater bus attempted to overtake a 33,000 litre tanker trailer at a negotiating bend.

The bus, which was badly crushed was said to be coming from Oyo, while the tanker trailer was coming from the north.

All the victims of the accident, including the driver have been evacuated and taken to the hospital.

In a related development, the timely intervention of men of unit 5 of the FRSC, saved a family of eight, including a new born baby from a ghastly motor accident, along Akinmoorin / Jobele Road in Oyo State.

According to the FRSC officials, a land cruiser jeep which contained eight persons, including a new born baby took off from the Ajayi Crowther University, Oyo, after the matriculation ceremony, and was passing through Akinmoorin, to link up with the Oyo / Ibadan highway at Jobele, where it entered into a deep ditch.

Eight persons sustained injuries, and were immediately rushed to the State Hospital by men of Unit 5 of the FRSC, where they were promptly attended to.

Amazingly, the new born baby escaped unhurt, as he was seen looking fresh and playful at the hospital.

In an interview, the Unit Commandant, Mrs. Biska Tongo Rom Kalilu, said the unit had embarked on 24 hour motorised patrol of Oyo / Ogbomoso road, before the yuletide period, to check overspeeding, dangerous overtaking and overloading.

Mrs. Rom Kalilu, stated that the command has also begun clamp-down on teenage commercial motorcyclists in Oyo and its environs, in order to nip in the bud rampant cases of motorcycle accidents in the areas.

According to her, "we are also embarking on sensitization drive to mosques and churches, on the need for religious leaders to educate their faithfuls, especially motorists, on the need to always obey traffic regulations".

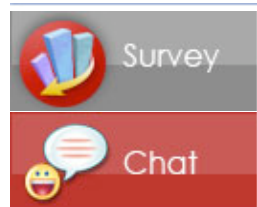
Meanwhile, barely a week after the horrendous crash which claimed over 22 lives another four persons died yesterday, leaving one injured in an auto crash that occurred at Obulu- Okiti, along Benin-Asaba Expressway near Issele-Uku in Delta State, *The Nation* has learnt.

State Commander, Federal Road Safety Corps said the accident involved a green Honda Civic with registration number BV 803 RBC and a stationary truck with registration number SA 586 GGE.

He said the Honda Civic was east-bound when the driver lost control and rammed into a stationary truck at 3pm.

The four occupants who included a female, according to him, died on the spot.

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He said the accident was caused by over-speeding and that the dead bodies had been deposited at a morgue in Mother and Child Hospital , Obulu-Ekiti while the injured person was admitted in the same hospital for treatment.

Meanwhile, the Zonal Commander, FRSC, Benin , Edo State , Mr. Nda Zakari has appealed to motorists to abstain from over-speedin, warning that "speed kills".



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