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Road mishap claims 10 in Onitsha

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By Adimike George | Published 11/04/2010 | News | Unrated

About ten persons died on Friday evening at the ever-busy Upper Iweka area of Onitsha, Anambra State, when a trailer lost control and rammed into a mini-bus, while several people sustained various degrees of injury.

According to eyewitnesses, the trailer was coming from Enugu axis of the expressway, heading towards Asaba, the Delta State capital when the driver lost control of the vehicle owing to a break failure and ran into a <u>Hiace</u> commuter bus fully loaded with passengers at a bad spot at Upper Iweka around 6.00 pm.

Eyewitnesses further said that some commercial motorcyclists, who were waiting to pick passengers in front of the NITEL gate, were crushed in the road mishap.

When contacted, the Onitsha Unit Commander of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) Mr. Ben Akunne, who confirmed the accident but said that only two persons died.

Akunne disclosed that the victims were a boy and a lady, adding that their corpses have been deposited at Onitsha General Hospital, mortuary.

Other passengers, who sustained several injuries, he said, were taken to St. Charles Borromeo Hospital, Onitsha.

When reporters visited the scene of the accident over the weekend, the carcass of the damaged vehicles and motorcycles littered the expressway.

The Police spokesperson in Anambra State, Mr. Emeka Chukwuemeka, when contacted on his mobile phone, expressed shock but said the State Command is not aware of the accident but promised to investigate the cause of the accident.

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