

- Home
- News
- Columnists
- Sports
- Politics
- Business
- Editorial
- Arts
- Health
- Education
- Society
- Saturday Magazine
- Sunday Magazine
- News Update



Home | News | 18 die as container crushes passenger bus

18 die as container crushes passenger bus

09/07/2011 08:12:00 Jude Isiguzo

Tears flowed yesterday in Ore, headquarters of Odigbo Local Government Area of Ondo State, as 18 persons were feared dead in a road accident.

The accident, which occurred in front of an eatery in Ore, according to eyewitnesses, happened when the driver of a lorry lost control of the vehicle and rammed into an 18-seater commercial bus.

But while eyewitnesses claimed that all the occupants of the bus died, the spokesman of the Ondo State Police Command, Mr. Adeniran Aremu (DSP) confirmed only five deaths, adding that several others sustained injuries.

The truck with registration number Lagos XT 460 EKY, according to police sources, was loaded with construction materials and was heading to Benin from Lagos, while the commercial bus with registration number EDO XN 727 BEN was on its way to Ore from Akure.

Other sources simply said the container on the truck fell on the passenger bus and claimed many lives.

Two persons, one of them a hawker, were said to have sustained serious injuries and were receiving treatment at Ore Specialist Hospital.

The scene of the accident was a gory sight as sympathisers and travellers wept uncontrollably.

The incident caused a heavy traffic jam along the ever busy Ore-Lagos Expressway.

Sympathisers thronged the scene for a glimpse of the bodies, while officials of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) had a hectic time trying to remove the wreckage of the vehicles.

The remains of the deceased have been deposited at Ore Specialist Hospital.

- News
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