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14 dead as bus runs over robbery victims

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TREE ON CARS AT CAR STAND AT ZARIA BYPASS AS A RESULT OF THE RAIN STORM

FOURTEEN people, including a child were crushed to death on the Lokoja-Abuja highway yesterday.

The dead were occupants of a luxury bus travelling to Abuja from “either Lagos or Ibadan”.

The incident occurred around 5a.m. at Zariagi on the ever-busy road.

Occupants of the luxury bus marked XL 300 ABC, belonging to Chisco Transport Company, were made to lie face down on the road by armed robbers who seized the highway.

As they were being searched by the armed robbers, a truck and another luxury bus, which was also heading for Abuja, ran over them, killing 14. There were two survivors of the

Sector Commander of the Federal Road Safety Corps in Kogi State Sunday Maku, confirmed the casualty figure.

Six bodies were deposited at the Lokoja Specialist Hospital. Eight were taken to the Federal Medical Centre, also in the Kogi State capital.

Police spokesman Ajayi Okesanmi said the hoodlums, who caused the accident, would be apprehended.

Speaking on behalf of the State Police Commissioner, Mr Amana Abakanga, Okesanmi said policemen were combing the suspects' "hideouts".

Okesanmi confirmed that the driver of the bus that ran over the people was in custody.

Hospital officials declined to speak to our reporter when he visited the Federal Medical Centre at about 5.30p.m yesterday, claiming they were not authorised to speak.

In Lagos, five persons died yesterday in an early morning multiple accident at Shogunle.

It was gathered that about 20 occupants of two commercial buses involved in the accident were seriously injured

According to eyewitnesses, an interstate bus coming from Oshodi collided with a commercial bus as it (the interstate bus) was trying to link the Agege Motor Road.

The commercial bus was on top speed, could not to stop. They collided. The interstate bus tumbled, resulting in the killing of the five people. Other passengers were injured.

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