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Four die in Niger road crashes

Posted by: Jide Orintunsin in News 1 day ago

Four persons, comprising two soldiers and two civilians, died on Friday and yesterday in two road crashes on the Mokwa-Bida Road in Niger State.

The two soldiers died in the first accident when a trailer hit a New Bussa-bound Army Hilux pick-up at Labojin village, about 43 kilometres from Mokwa town at 7.30pm. Two other soldiers were injured in the vehicle.

An eyewitness said the victims, comprising the driver and the soldier beside him, died on the spot.

It was learnt that officials of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) arrived promptly at the accident scene while the villagers evacuated the injured to Mokwa General Hospital.

The accident was said to be so severe that it took hours to remove the bodies of the dead from the wreckage.

The villagers arrested the driver of the trailer and handed him over to the police.

Two people also died yesterday in a head-on collision between a petrol tanker and a truck conveying water melon on the same road in Mokwa town.

The driver of the Mitsubishi truck, which was carrying water melon and the owner of the consignment died in the accident.

The FRSC Sector Commander for Mokwa, Mr Adedoyin Adeyinka, confirmed the accidents in a telephone chat with our reporter.

He said the Friday accident involved military personnel and a trailer.

Adeyinka said: "We spent hours trying to separate the bodies of the two soldiers from the mangled vehicle. The injured officers were rushed to Mokwa General Hospital and are responding to treatment.

In the second accident, a head-on collision occurred today (Sunday) involving a water melon truck and a petrol tanker. The truck driver and the person beside him died on the spot. Their bodies were conveyed to Mokwa General Hospital.

"We had a hectic time trying to stop people from scooping the fuel on the accident scene to avoid further loss of lives. It was with the help of the police."

The FRSC chief advised motorists to be cautious when they ply the route because of the bad state of the road.

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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						
« Aug						

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