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Seven die, 19 injured in crashes

Posted By: [Tajudeen Adebajo and Olatunde Odebiyi](#) On: April 18, 2017 In: [City Beats](#)

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Seven persons died and 19 others were injured yesterday in two accidents in Lagos. Five of them died when their commercial bus caught fire while descending the stadium bridge around Barracks Bus Stop in Surulere. Five were injured. The two others died in Gbagada off the Apapa-Oshodi Expressway when another commercial bus and a Mazda car collided. Fourteen were injured.

According to Lagos State Emergency Management Agency (LASEMA), the five including a

child, three women and a man, were burnt beyond recognition when their Volkswagen s marked AND996XC caught fire.
e rescued were rushed to hospital.

e Gbagada accident, which happened around 3pm near a filling station, involved other Volkswagen commercial bus marked GGE716XM and the Mazda car with number plate marked MUS554XP. The driver of the bus, which was coming from Mile12, was among the injured.

According to eyewitnesses, the accident happened when the bus was trying to avoid being hit by a speeding Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV). The bus turned right without knowing that it was near a culvert.

It climbed the culvert, summersaulted and collided with the Mazda, which is used as a taxi.

The Nation learnt that some of the passengers tried to jump out of the bus to no avail. According to some Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA), officials, the driver and two others were inside the taxi.

The accident, caused a gridlock, which took the LASTMA officials an hour to clear. The vehicles have been towed to Anthony Police Station.

The Lagos State Environmental Health and Monitoring Unit (SEHMU), it was learnt, took the bodies to the morgue.

The injured were taken to Gbagada General Hospital and the Trauma Centre at Ikeja by Lagos State Ambulance Bus (LASAMBUS) and the LASEMA paramedics.

A statement by LASEMA said its Emergency Response Team (ERT) received a distress call around 3:05 pm about the accident.

The statement said: "This prompted the immediate activation of the agency's ERT to the scene. A Volkswagen commercial bus with registration number GGE716XM had a head on collision with another vehicle, Mazda Taxi.

"Two lives were lost and have been moved by SEHMU to the Lagos Mainland Hospital Mortuary, while the damaged vehicles were recovered with the aid of the agency's towing truck to avoid another incident and ensure free flow of traffic in the area."

LASEMA General Manager Adesina Tihamiyu advised motorists to drive within the speed limit to avoid accidents.

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