Six Makurdi students die in accident

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Six students of the Federal University of Agriculture, Makurdi (UAM), yesterday, died in an accident on campus.

They were heading from the north campus to the south campus for a 9 am test.

Students went on a rampage, destroying facilities, to protest their colleague's death.

The protesting students burnt the affected bus.

Vice Chancellor Prof Richard Kimbir had to shut the school.

The Nation gathered the tyre of the bus burst after which it lost control and hit two motorcycles.

The bus somersaulted about three times. Three students died on the spot.

The injured were rushed to the school clinic but workers asked for identity cards and acceptance letters before treating them.

Some of the victims died in hospital; others were taken to General Hospital at Northbank.

Students, who got wind of the accident and the treatment meted out to their colleagues, mobilised for a violent protest.

They destroyed vehicles parked in the school clinic.

They stormed the ICT Centre and damaged facilities.

They took over the university's main entrance, prevented movement, and forced vehicle owners to display green leaves in solidarity.

Mobile policemen and officials of the Civil Defence Corps intervened, firing tear gas to disperse the students.

The students are to start their examination Monday.

A statement by the Registrar, Mrs. Helen Nyitse, said the university is to proceed on a mid-term semester break today.

She urged students to vacate the campus by 2 pm.