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## Road Mishaps: 12 Die In Katsina, 12 In Rivers

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Twenty four persons were yesterday confirmed dead in two motor accidents in Katsina and Rivers States respectively.

An accident in Dankawo village in Funtua Local Government Area in Katsina State Tuesday night, claimed the lives of 12 persons, barely two days after an auto crash claimed lives in the state.

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Confirming the incident to newsmen in Katsina, sector commandant of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), Mr. Hamid Adewole, noted that the accident involved a tanker with registration number XE 732DKA, a bus with registration number XE 884 NSR and a Starlet with registration number AE 493 BLR.

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The sector commander noted that his men rushed to the scene of the accident following a distressed call by a good samaritan where they found the bodies of the victims scattered on the road while the three vehicles were in a nearby bush. According to him, those who died on the spot include three children, four women, three men while the remaining two died in the hospital and 17 persons with serious injuries were hospitalised.

LEADERSHIP correspondent who visited Funtua General Hospital was told by a medical staffer who spoke on condition of anonymity that out of the corpses deposited in the hospital mortuary three are yet to be claimed.

The sector commander has called on road users to desist from reckless driving and dangerous over taking, adding that the commission in Katsina would soon embark on enlightenment campaign to educate drivers on safety measures while on the road.

It could be recalled that at the weekend, 18 persons died along Kaita- Katsina road while on thier way to a wedding Fatiha of a friend.

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Meanwhile, no fewer than 12 persons were on Wednesday killed when two vehicles collided within the Omerelu axis of the Port Harcourt -Owerri Express Road in Rivers State.

The accident, involved an 18-seater commercial bus belonging to the Rivers State Transport Company (RTC) and a Toyota Corolla II private car.

LEADERSHIP gathered that while the commercial bus was coming into Port Harcourt from Onitsha, the commercial city of Anambra State, the private car was going to Owerri from Port Harcourt.

It was learnt that both vehicles ran into each other on the ever-busy road, which is currently being dualised by the Rivers State government.

LEADERSHIP further gathered that while the driver of the private car along with his only passenger died, about 10 persons died on the spot on the side of the commercial bus.

The bodies of the 12 persons have been taken to a nearby mortuary at Elele in Ikwerre Local Government Area of the state, while those injured including the driver of the commercial bus, have been taken to the Madonna University Teaching Hospital, Elele for medical attention.

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