

Sallah tragedy: 10 die in Ondo road crashes

YINKA OLADOYINBO AND
STEPHEN GBADAMOSI

AS Nigerians awaited day-break and the felicitations that mark Eid-el-Kabir, 10 persons lost their lives in two motor accidents that occurred in Ondo State on Friday and in the early hours of Saturday.

Eight persons died, while three others were injured in the first ghastly accident that occurred along Akure - Owo expressway, about five kilometers to Ikare junction. The accident, which involved an Abuja-bound **Toyota Sienna** car with registration number Anambra ABN 214 and a **Renault** articulated vehicle marked Lagos LND 426 XC, was said to have shaken sympathisers. An eyewitness informed

Sunday Tribune that the **Toyota** bus' driver was trying to overtake a vehicle in front of his when the unfortunate incident happened. According to him, the driver of the **Sienna** dangerously overtook the other vehicle and in the process ran into the articulated vehicle coming from the opposite direction. The entire occupants of the bus were said to have died on the spot as it was rammed under the trailer, which reportedly dragged it for some meters before it swerved off the expressway. The impact of the accident was so much that the roof of the bus was sliced off, while it took the efforts of sympathisers to remove the bodies of the victims from its wreckage. When contacted, Police

Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Ondo State command, Wole Ogo-do, confirmed the accident, adding that it happened at about 3.30am. He stated that the three survivors were responding to treatment, adding that the driver of the truck escaped from the scene before the security agencies were alerted. Ogodo added that the police was investigating the matter, giving the assurance that the escaped driver would soon be brought to book. The second accident that reportedly occurred at about 10.40 p.m. of the same day along Akure - Ondo expressway, close to Ilesa garage, claimed the lives of two persons. One other person escaped with some injuries.

According to the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), the accident involved a **Mitsubishi Space Runner** and a **Honda** bike.

Corpses of the deceased were said to have since been deposited in the morgue.

Synagogue: Co

LANRE ADEWOLE - LAGOS

EMBATTLED televangelist, T. B Joshua, eight media houses and 21 others have been penciled in as witnesses as coroner inquest begins in the recent Synagogue Church of All Nations (SCOAN) tragedy which led to the death of about 165 persons.

The inquest instituted by Lagos State government is expected to commence on