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Nine killed in Edo auto crash

Only four persons died —Police

'Suyi Ayodele | Benin-City

It was a fatal Tuesday for residents of Sokponba Road in Benin-City, the Edo State capital, as an early morning auto crash claimed the lives of about nine persons.

Nigerian Tribune gathered from eyewitnesses that the accident occurred at Ogbelaka Junction,

when a tipper, loaded with sand, collided with two minibuses, which were conveying commuters.

According to the account of the eyewitnesses, the tipper was trying to overtake another tipper when it lost control and collided with the two minibuses, killing several commuters on the spot.

The accident caused

gridlock as the exit routes to Asoro Street, Eri and Ogbelaka areas were completely blocked, leaving commuters to trek long distances to their destinations.

While witnesses claimed to have counted nine corpses at the scene, the Edo State police command's Public Relations Officer, Bello Kontongs,

when contacted, said only four persons died.

Kontongs said: "It involved a truck coming from Upper Sakponba, which lost control and ran into a white bus, killing three persons on the spot, while one died on the way to the hospital. The injured victims have been rushed to the hospital for treatment."



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