

Family of five dies in lone accident in Ondo

Two killed as vehicle plunges into roadside market in Benue

From Hakeem Gbadamosi and Johnson Babajide

THE Ondo State police command on Wednesday said five persons -- a couple and their three children -- lost their lives in a lone accident that occurred on Ijoka road in Akure, the state capital.

According to a report, the father was returning home with his family after the day's work when the accident occurred.

An eyewitness said the vehicle rammed a heavy duty tractor parked by the side of the road which is under construction.

The Public Relations Officer of the command, Mrs Funmilayo Odunlami, however, said the command had commenced investigation into the matter.

She said: "We can confirm the incident that it claimed five lives and investigation has commenced into it."

The eyewitness said the accident occurred at about 9:00 p.m., adding that the driver must have been on top speed which aggravated the impact of the accident.

In a related development,

two persons were confirmed killed and 16 others injured in Gboko area of Benue State when a vehicle lost control and ploughed into people at a roadside market.

While the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Catherine Anene, confirmed the death of the two persons, an eyewitness claimed five persons lost their lives in the accident.

Anene said: "A fatal motor accident occurred and two persons died."

The eyewitness said the accident occurred at about 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday when the driver of the vehicle lost control following a brake failure in front of a hotel at Akaajime, within Gboko town."

Chairman of Gboko Local Government, James Kachina, who confirmed the incident on Wednesday, immediately visited the injured at the hospitals.

The council boss was accompanied by leader of Gboko legislative house, Peters Maaki.

The chairman, while stating that 16 injured people were in two different hospitals in Gboko town, pledged the council's assistance to them.