

News

20 burnt to death in Oyo road accident

By Wale Akinselure

NO fewer than 20 passengers were burnt to death on Friday after two vehicles collided at Maya Junction in Lanlate, Ibarapa East Local Government Area of Oyo State.

Upon the head-on collision, the two vehicles conveying passengers immediately caught fire.

It was gathered that the fire erupted because a passenger in

one of the vehicles, a fuel black marketer, was conveying petrol.

Just two passengers survived the accident while the others and the vehicles were burnt.

The chairman of Ibarapa East Local Government, Mr Gbenga Obalowo, who led a rescue team to the scene of the accident, described the incident as unfortunate.

Obalowo sympathised with the families of those who died in the incident.

He said the two survivors were currently receiving

medical attention at Awojobi Hospital in Eruwa, while the corpses of those burnt had been deposited in a morgue.

Obalowo said: "It was a fatal accident hence it was a gory sight. We counted over 20 human bodies burnt completely. I learnt they had a head-on collision and the two vehicles, a commercial bus and a Sienna car which were both conveying passengers, caught fire and got burnt beyond repair.

"Families whose loved ones usually ply this road and are

yet to be reached should please contact parks in and around the town to confirm the identities of the victims in their manifests. I pray to the Lord to continue to guide and protect us wherever we may be."

He appealed to motorists, particularly commercial drivers, to be careful while driving.

"Although no one is perfect, our drivers need to avoid speeding. Many lives have been lost to avoidable road accidents," the local government chairman added.