

Five die in Ondo boat accident

Another five killed, 11 injured in lone crash

Hakeem Gbadamosi | Akure

FIVE persons have been confirmed dead following a boat accident at Ugbo-nla in Ilaie Local Government Area of Ondo State on Saturday, while one passenger was rescued in the incident.

The victims were said to be heading for a local sea food market when their boat capsized.

Speaking on the incident, president of fishermen in the state, Mr Orioye Benedict Gbayisemore, lamented over the deaths of the five traders, saying they would have survived if they had used life jackets.

Gbayisemore then called on the state government to compel boat operators to enforce the use of life jackets during their trips on the waterways.

He said: "The lone survivor in the Ugbo nla boat mishap had the foresight to wear a life jacket before setting out on the ill-fated trip. The life jacket was vital to his survival as it kept him afloat until rescuers got to where he was on the water."

In another development, a lone accident involving an 18-seater commercial vehicle on Sunday morning claimed five lives, while 11 others were injured.

The accident occurred on

the Okeagbe/Ajowa road in Ikaram Akoko in Akoko North West Local Government Area of the state.

According to an eyewitness, the accident occurred after a tyre burst, which made the driver lose control of the vehicle.

The source said five persons were confirmed dead at the scene of the accident, while the injured were rushed to the hospital for treatment.

He said men of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) and police from Ikare Akoko division rushed the victims to the hospital.

Also, a road traffic crash (RTC) report from RS 11.3 Ondo Sector Command of the FRSC revealed that the accident occurred at about 12:15 p.m.

The FRSC report said the remains of deceased, which included four males and one female, were deposited at the morgue, while 13 males and five females were in the vehicle when the incident occurred.

The crash report stated that the victims were taken to the State Specialist Hospital, Ikare Akoko, for medical attention, and the corpses were taken to same hospital's morgue, while the crashed vehicle was taken over by policemen from Okeagbe division.