

# Accidents claim 18 lives in Benin

**Fidelis Soriwei, Benin**

**A** total of 18 people have been killed and several others injured in road accidents which have been on the rise since the commencement of the rainy season in Edo State in the past two days..

The most recent of the accidents was the one involving a Toyota Hiace commercial bus with registration number XK 383 KTU on its way to Calabar from Lagos, at the

Benin-Agbor Road in which three people died on Monday.

Apart from these three people (all male adults), officials of the Federal Road Safety Commission on a rescue operation, rushed 14 other passengers who sustained varying degrees of injuries to Sui Hospital in Benin for urgent medical attention.

The Acting Zonal Commander of the FRSC in Benin, Chief Zakari

Ndah, who spoke with journalists on the incident on Tuesday, said that the injured include two children, four women and five men.

Ndah called on the relatives of the victims of the accident to visit the Edo State Sector Command of the FRSC at Ikpoba Hill, to identify and collect items belonging to the passengers which were recovered by his men at the scene.

The Monday accident

was coming on the heels of another accident in the same area that caused the death of 15 people including 12 primary school pupils along the Benin-Asaba Express Way at the weekend.

According to him, most of the accidents recorded along the busy road occurred as a result of overspeeding by the drivers. He added that the latest accident was a lone one involving no other vehicle.