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Seven die in Ogere auto crash

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Seven persons on Wednesday died at the old toll gate in Ogere, Ogun State, as a truck driver ran into passers-by while fleeing arrest.

The nature of the offence of the driver committed could not be ascertained.

But the account of the State Sector Commander, Federal Road Safety Commission, Mr. Olu-Mike Olagunju, on Thursday, did not tally with the version of the accident by the Managing Director, Gateway Trailer Park Limited, Mr. Leke Adesanya.

Adesanya said a bus belonging to the Redeemed Christian Church of God, with some students on board, ran into a fuel truck before killing the passers-by.

The driver of the bus and the students were said to be returning from an excursion to Ibadan.

Adesanya explained that the bus had attempted to avoid collision with a vehicle, which was driving against traffic, when he ran into the fuel truck.

He said, "The bus did not want to hit the car driving against traffic, so he swerved to the side of the road. Unfortunately, that was when one of the tankers tried to join the main road, reversing. So, the bus ran into the trailer, killing five people on the spot. It also killed another man riding an okada instantly," he said.

He added that the seventh person was killed about 12 hours later when a commercial motorcycle that was said to be conveying a relative of one of the victims of the accident from Ode Remo to Ogere, ran into a stationary truck.

Adesanya said that the driver, who was driving against the traffic, caused the accident.

He explained that another school bus also rammed into the first one from the rear.

Adesanya said while the traffic police officers towed the second bus to the Motor Traffic Division, Sagamu, a mob set the church bus, which had allegedly crushed the victims on fire.

Olagunju, however, said he was not aware that any of the vehicles involved in the accident was burnt.

The GTPL managing director said the bodies of some of the victims had been deposited at the mortuary of the Olabisi Onabanjo University Teaching Hospital, Sagamu.

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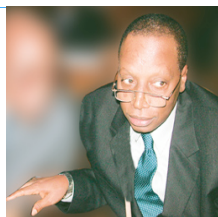
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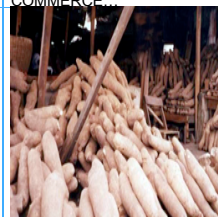


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