

Three burnt to death in Edo auto crash

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Three persons were on Thursday burnt to death in an auto crash at Ugbokun Community along the Benin-Lagos Expressway in Ovia South West Local Government Area of Edo State.

It was gathered that tragedy struck when a trailer loaded with firewood rammed into an 18-seater bus heading for Port Harcourt and set the bus ablaze, killing the driver and two other female passengers of the bus, who were burnt beyond recognition.

The driver of the trailer was said to have had an argument with some persons while loading the truck and drove off angrily before colliding with the Mazda bus with number plate Osun WWD 624 XA.

He was said to have fled the seen of the accident before he was arrested and detained by the Okada Police Division.

One of the eyewitnesses said that several efforts to put off the fire and rescue the victims proved abortive as the fire raged on.

"We tried to rescue the people but the next thing was that fire started. I used water and fire extinguisher but they did not work

"Later the tire started bursting. We tried to rescue the driver because he was still breathing. But he gave up on the way to the hospital.

Rescuers, including a relative of one of the victims, Sikiru Olawale, was also at the scene.

Some police personnel from the Okada Division and officers of the Federal Road Safety Corps were also at the scene to ease the traffic congestion caused by the accident.

The Benin Toll Gate Unit Commander of the FRSC, Mr. Adewale Ameen, decried the rate of reckless driving amongst drivers on the highway despite several warnings and enlightenment campaigns carried out by the agency.



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