

16 burnt to death in Kogi accident

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Photo file

Samson Folarin

No fewer than 16 people were killed after a commercial bus had a head-on collision with a Sports Utility Vehicle at the Alewu village end of the Lokoja-Abaji Expressway in Kogi State.

The *PUNCH* learnt that only one person survived the accident, which involved a *Toyota Hiace* heading towards Kano and a SUV going to Benin, the Edo State capital.

Our correspondent learnt that the accident was caused by violation of road traffic rules.

The Sector Commander, Federal Road Safety Corps, Kogi State, Mr. Ugboma Ugochukwu, while confirming the accident, told our

correspondent on Sunday that the victims were buried at the accident scene.

He explained that the survivor, who sustained minor injuries, had been discharged from the hospital.

He said, "The accident happened around 6.30am on Friday at Alewu village, along the Lokoja-Abaji Expressway. It involved a fully-loaded commercial bus which was coming from Lagos and heading towards Kano State and a *jeep*, which was coming from Abuja and heading towards Benin.

"The two vehicles had a head-on collision, which was caused by one of the vehicles that was driving against the traffic. Speeding was also responsible for the accident, but it was primarily caused by violation of traffic rules. The accident led to an explosion, which resulted in the death of 16 of the passengers. They were burnt beyond recognition and were buried in the village.

"The lone survivor was rushed to a hospital in Koto-Karfi, where he was treated and discharged."