

# Three persons, vehicles burnt in Delta tanker explosion

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**Published** [July 23, 2020](#)



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No fewer than three persons were reportedly burnt to death, while others were injured on Wednesday following a petroleum tanker explosion in the Koko Junction and Ologbo Section end of the Benin-Sapele Expressway in the Ethiope West Local Government Area of Delta State.

Witnesses said the incident occurred around 11am when the tanker laden with petroleum product fell as the driver was maneuvering a bad portion of the expressway.

The petroleum product split on the busy road, causing an explosion that led to a fire.

One of the witnesses, who identified himself as Mr Joseph, told our correspondent that several victims were burnt beyond recognition while no fewer than 10 vehicles were razed in the inferno.

He said, “More than 17 persons were burnt beyond recognition. About 10 vehicles were trapped in the fire that occurred after the explosion. The victims were occupants of the burnt vehicles.

“Many persons were injured. It’s a terrible situation.”

It was gathered that officials of the Federal Road Safety Corps and other security agencies later moved to the scene to remove the corpses, while some of those injured were rushed to the nearest hospitals.

When contacted, the state Commissioner of Police, Mr Hafiz Inuwa, confirmed the incident.

However, the police command’s spokesperson, DSP Onome Onovwakloyeya, said three persons were killed in the incident.

He said, “Three people were burnt beyond recognition while some vehicles and motorcycles were razed in the tanker explosion.”