18 die in Niger auto crash

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Map of Niger state

An auto crash has claimed the lives of all the passengers of an 18 seater bus in the early hours of Sunday in Gidan Kwano, along Minna-Bida road in the Bosso Local Government area of Niger State.

The occupants of the bus, which was said to have taken off from Lagos, were burnt beyond recognition.

According to a resident of the area, Ado Musa, they can not ascertain the exact time the accident occurred. He, however, said it was before 5:00am.

Musa added that the bus ran into a stationed truck before going up in flames.

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He also said that due to the time of the crash, there was no rescue until about 5:00am, adding that at the time help came, the passengers had already been burnt beyond recognition.

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Abiodun Wasiu, confirmed the incident and said it happened in the early hours of Sunday.

He also said victims of the crash have been given a mass burial close to the scene of the accident.

Abiodun further stated that the plate number of the bus was also burnt beyond recognition, adding that efforts are being made to trace the bus and the manifest.