

Driver, 4 others, perish in Delta road crash

From PAUL OSUYI, Asaba

Five persons yesterday, lost their lives in a ghastly lone motor accident involving a bus in Obiaruku/Amai in Ukwuani area of Delta State.

According to eyewitness account, the driver of the 18-seater bus was said to be among the dead persons.

Although the cause of the accident could not be established as at press time, it was gathered that the Kwale-bound vehicle lost control at the middle of the highway and somersaulted before crash-landing.

The source further informed that the driver of the vehicle was answering a call on his mobile handset when he suddenly lost control.

Other occupants, who survived the crash were said to have sustained injuries and rushed to the hospital for treatment while the corpses of the dead were deposited at the mortuary of the same hospital.

"Our vehicle was coming behind the ill-fated bus when suddenly, the bus skidded-off the expressway and veered to the road edges which led to its somersaulting several times and throwing out the occupants.

"We stopped to help rescue the victims and we discovered that five persons including the driver, who was making calls while on steering, had died. Those who survived were rushed to the hospital for treatment," the source said.

Asked if officials of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) were on hand to rescue the victims and clear the wreckage off the highway, the source said that as at the time their vehicle left the scene, there was yet to be response from the commission.

"I cannot tell if the officials of FRSC were there to do their work because after the rescue exercise, we had to embark on our journey."

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