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9 Catholic women die in auto crash

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BY OUR REPORTER ON NOVEMBER 28, 2015

COVER

FROM OBINNA ODOGWU, EKWULOBIA

Blood flowed yesterday at 7pm as nine members of Catholic Women Organisation returning from a burial in Nawfija in Orumba South L.G.A., Anambra State were crushed to death in an auto crash when their bus collided with a tipper while 11 were fatally wounded.

The accident happened before Ajalli police station along Ekwulobia road while they were driving in their 18-seater bus.

According to eyewitnesses, the tipper driver who was apparently drunk smashed the women returning to their base in Nanka, the hometown of Catholic bishop of Awka, Most Revd. Paulinus Chukwuemeka Ezeokafor.

They confirmed that 6 died on the spot while three more died later at the hospital while 10 were rushed to hospital, and 2 were transferred to Nnamdi Azikiwe University Teaching Hospital, Nnewi.

They gave the names of the dead as Mrs Susan Okafor, mother of Sr. Jane Francis Okafor, Mother-General of Sisters of Jesus The Saviour Elele, Rivers State; Mrs Alice Nwankwo Igbiidi; Mrs Christiana Iloh; Mrs Catherine Okafor Agu; Mrs Veronica Ezibe; Mrs Rose Ogbunankwo, Secretary of the parish council; Mrs Therese Okoligan; Mrs Fedrick Ezeonwu and Mr Samuel Offormata known as Ashanti, the driver of the ill-fated bus.

The two women transferred to Nnewi were Mrs Uju Obiechina and Mrs Rose Ette.

Speaking on behalf of the victims' families, Dr Ugochukwu Okwuba, Medical Officer of Health, Aguata local government area who was short of words, said the victims were all his relatives and they were speechless since such has never happened so in their village for a small village Enugu-Nanka to lose 9 women at a stretch.

Meanwhile, the tipper driver was said to have fled even as the DPO Ajalli, CSP Patrick Odoemelem and his



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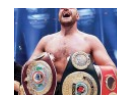


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