

OR
EOD

22 die in crash involving bridal convoy in Katsina

From **Agaju Madugba, Katsina**

AT least 22 people escorting a newly wedded lady to her husband's home perished on Saturday evening in an automobile accident along Kankia-Danja Road, Katsina State.

Seventeen others were seriously injured in the accident, but the bride escaped unhurt.

The crash came on the heels of the killing of 30 persons by bandits in two Katsina communities of Tsauwa and Dankar, in Batsari Local Government Area.

The crash which occurred near Kafur town, involved two J5 buses in a head-on collision.

"The two vehicles burst into flames after the crash and 22 persons were burnt to death," an

eyewitness, Shafi'u Suleiman, said. Suleiman noted that most of the victims were women and children escorting a bride to her matrimonial home.

According to him, the bride and one of the drivers were among three survivors who escaped unhurt.

The spokesman for the Federal Road Safety Corps in Katsina, Abubakar Usman, who confirmed

the report, said 11 other persons were injured in the crash and were taken to the General Hospital at Malumfashi.

"Those who were burnt beyond recognition were buried according to Islamic rites by the community and religious leaders," Usman said.

Earlier on January 20, the Police confirmed 17 people killed in a road crash at Yardudu village of Mashi Local Government Area of the state.

By **Philip Nwosu**

THE Chief of Army Staff, Lieutenant General Tukur Buratai, has called on officers and soldiers of the Nigerian Army Corps of Signal to work hard to project the vision of the force especially as it concerns the battle against insurgents in the North Eastern part of the country.

The Army Chief spoke at the 2020 edition of the West African Social Activities (WASA) of the Nigerian Army Corps of Signals, commending the Corps for providing effective

Buratai lauds Army Signal Corps for exploits in North-East

represented by the General Officer Commanding (GOC) 81 Division Major General Olu Irefin, commended men of the Nigerian Army for ensuring the protection of the territorial integrity of the country and fighting to keep Nigeria united in the Northeast.

Buratai's commendation came

confronting the country.

They also used the occasion to thank God for protecting them, their families and the nation in the previous year as well showed that their lives were not all about guns and armoury.

Maj.-Gen. Mohammed Mohammed also thanked General Buratai, for making the Signals the life-wire of the

of its activities with the support from the COAS, and particularly ensured that the corps achieved its mission.

"This includes providing clear support to the Nigerian Army activities in virtually all states of the federation. It became necessary for us to find ourselves in every activity of the Nigerian Army over the year.

"The need for communication and the