

Auto crash claims five in Ondo

**Adewale Momoh and
Emmanuel Masha**

Five passengers yesterday lost their lives in a motor accident at Ore in Odigbo Local Government Area of Ondo State.

The accident, which occurred in the morning, involved a commercial bus and an articulated vehicle.

The Head of Operations, Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), Ondo State Command, Mr. Olusegun Ogungbemide, blamed the accident on over-speeding and wrong overtaking.

He said: "On September 17, 2019, about 7.15a.m. along km 46, Adekunle area in Ore, a bus, Toyota Hiace, marked AKL 930 YY and one articulated vehicle, Man Diesel, marked FGB 747 XA, were involved in a crash.

"In the accident, five people died instantly while seven others sustained injuries."

Ogungbemide added that the victims' bodies had been evacuated to the morgue by the FRSC operatives while those who sustained injuries were taken some hospitals in Ore.

Admonishing motorists to be cautious, particularly during the 'ember' months, the FRSC head of operations urged passengers to be vigilant when boarding any vehicle.

He said: "The motoring public should be more careful during these ember months. There is increase in vehicular movements on the high-

ways and unnecessary agitation by drivers, mostly commercial drivers.

"The passengers too, have a major role to play in cautioning their drivers. Commuters are advised to be vigilant and avoid sleeping during a trip.

"Never allow a reckless driver to waste your life. All hands must be on deck to keep you safe from all these carnages."

Meanwhile, a lady inside a Toyota Camry car died yesterday, while a male driver survived after their car plunged from Nkpogu Bridge into a river beside the Nigerian Liquefied Natural Gas Road, Port Harcourt, Rivers State. While the lady's body was removed from the river by marine professionals who used a crane belonging to Julius Berger, the man was rushed to hospital.

Witnesses said the driver exited from the car inside the water and swam to safety, while the crane recovered the car and brought out the woman's body which was deposited at the morgue.

Before rescue operations commenced shortly after the accident occurred about 9a.m., police had a difficulty preventing onlookers from catching a glimpse of the accident victims.

Some motorists coming from the LNG roundabout parked their cars along the pedestrian lane and joined other onlookers who had gathered and leaned on the supportive barrier from the river.

Police arrest notorious car snatchers