

Kidnappers attack leaves 9 commuters dead



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By



No fewer than nine commuters allegedly died along the Abuja-Lokoja highway when suspected kidnappers laid siege and shot at unsuspected travellers.

All occupants of a Sharon car coming from Port Harcourt en-route Abuja were said to have died after the space bus tumbled several times as a result of gunshot on its tires by the assailants.

Other occupants in a Toyota Camry car coming from Ibadan to Abuja, in an attempt to escape after running into the kidnapping scene sustained varying degree of injuries.

A lucky passenger, who escaped the attack, narrated his ordeals; he said the incident occurred at about 5.58p.m.

The victim, who did not want his name in print, said he and four other occupants of the Toyota Camry were coming from Ibadan and headed to Abuja, when suddenly they cited some young men about two kilometres ahead in military camouflage with black mask stopping vehicles.

According to him, some of the occupants of these vehicles were stopped and marched into the bush.

He said a Sharon car coming from Port Harcourt on sighting them tried to escape, but got shot at which deflated the tires and as a result swayed off the road and summersaulted severally, killing all the occupants.

“It is at this point we noticed that they may be kidnappers, our driver then engaged the reverse gear and they started firing at our car. The driver was hit on the shoulder with bullets coming through the other side of the car, while another was hit on the head.”

He said they drove straight to Gugu Police Station, while policemen visited the scene and arranged the dead to Koton-Karfe General Hospital and subsequently transferred to the Federal Medical Center, Lokoja.