

METRO

...CRIME, CITY WATCH, COURTS

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A Toyota Hiace bus conveying 20 members of the Catholic Women's Organisation (CWO), of Saint Francis Catholic Church, Nviekaa in Makurdi that attended the burial of one of their members yesterday veered off the road and crashed into a tree, killing four worshippers with 15 others badly injured.

New Telegraph gathered that those who died on the spot included the driver of the vehicle and four women.

The accident occurred at Kilometer one after the National Youth Service Corp (NYSC) orientation camp at Wannune in Tarka Local Government Area of Benue State located along Gboko-Makurdi Expressway.

Three CWO members, driver die in Benue auto crash, 15 others injured

...Driver slept off - witness

A source told *New Telegraph* in confidence that the driver of the bus was sleeping when the accident occurred, but the state Sector Commander of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), Yakubu Mohammed, who also confirmed the incident, said the driver was over speeding.

Yakubu said both the injured and the dead had been taken to St. Christopher's Hospital and NKST Hospital in Annnunne.

He said, "the crash occurred on Thursday around 1148hrs. Only

one vehicle was involved, a Toyota Hiace. There were 19 people in the vehicle out of which 18 are females and then one male adult.

"So, the number of injured persons is 15 while the number of those who were killed is four. Both the injured and the dead have been taken to St. Christopher Hospital and NKST Hospital, both in Annnunne. Cause of accident is over speeding. It happened one kilometer after NYSC Orientation Camp, Annnunne," he explained.



Scene of the accident