

5 persons killed in Ondo community auto crash

Babatope Okeowo,
AKURE

Five persons have been killed and eleven others critically injured in a lone accident involving an 18-seater bus which crashed yesterday in Ikaram-Akoko in Akoko Northwest Local Government Area of Ondo State.

A resident of the community said the 18-seater bus was on its way to Jos, Plateau State when it crashed leading to the death of some occupants and various degrees of injuries to others.

The source said it was a

black Sunday in the rustic community as people were wailing over the death of the travelers.

According to him, the ill-fated bus had a tyre burst while on high speed in a junction leading to Ajowa Akoko and Akunu Akoko in the local government area.

He said men of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) Ikare unit with police and sympathisers were involved in the rescue operations as many people were in tears over the lone accident.

The unit commander of FRSC, Ikare Akoko, Mr. Oluropo Alabi, said he was

not in a position to give an accurate figure of victims as the rescue operation was still ongoing.

He said various seminars, warnings, and caution had been made particularly on reckless driving, the usage of expired tyres, and other road regulations.

The Chief Medical Officer (CMD) Ikare Specialist Hospital, Dr Ade Idowu has not responded on the actual figure of victims. But a mortuary attendant who did not want his name in print disclosed that six bodies had been deposited in the morgue while many others were in the emergency ward of the hospital.

But the state command of the FRSC confirmed the death of five persons, including four male and one female, while eleven persons were critically injured. The command said three persons did not sustain any injury.

The command said the victims were taken to State Specialist Hospital, Ikare Akoko for medical attention and the corpses were taken to same hospital's morgue while the crashed vehicle was taken over by men of Nigeria Police Force (NPF), Okeagbe division.

The paramount ruler of Ikaram-Akoko, Oba Andrew Momodu said the community had approached the Federal Ministry of Works and Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to construct a speed breaker around the junction which always record motor accidents.

Police burst robbery syndicate in Jigawa

The Jigawa State Police Command has smashed a robbery syndicate in the state and arrested two suspects.

A statement yesterday by the Police spokesperson in the state, Mr Lawal Shiisu, said that the suspects were arrested in Ringim Local Government Area.

He said, "On June 2, 2023 at about 1930hrs, a team of policemen led by Divisional Police Officer, Ringim Division, acting on credible intelligence were notified about some specialised armed robbers.

"They had perfected their evil plans to move out for notorious operation along Wudil and Garko Road in Kano State.

"The team of policemen and local vigilantes swung into action and arrested one Hamza Abdullahi, 22, (aka Chumo) of Wangara Fulani settlement, Ringim area.

"Also arrested was one

Hassan Ya'u, aged 25 of Tsoma Fulani settlement in Ajingi area of Kano State, in possession of one locally made fabricated revolver Pistol and two motorcycles."

Shiisu added that the suspects had confessed to blocking Dundubus-Gamoji Road on May 6, during which they abandoned two motorcycles on sighting policemen.

According to him, the suspects also confessed to participating in armed robbery operations along Gujungu-Miga Road, Kiyawa-Shuwarin Road, and Fanisau-Kano Road, all in Jigawa.

He said that the two suspects will be charged to court upon completion of investigation.

The Commissioner of Police, Mr Emmanuel Ekot, appreciated the people of the state for their support and urged them to continue providing useful information to tackle criminal elements.