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## 15 Footballers Die in Jos Road Accident

From Seriki Adinoyi in Jos,  
01.26.2009

The tentative peace in Jos, Plateau state, was again yesterday distorted when fifteen footballers of the Jimeta Football Club, Yola, including their coach and another official, met their death in a motor accident. Their bus crashed into a gully while meandering the road, along Hawan-kibo Hill, some kilometres away from Jos city.

THISDAY gathered that the passengers numbering 22, including four officials, who had left Yola, Adamawa State, the previous day for Abuja to honour a Division-one amateur league tournament, but were held up in a curfew in Jos, and had to pass the night.

The players who left Jos yesterday morning ran out of luck when the bus driver lost control while trying to manipulate through the notorious corners along the hill.

Some of the victims were immediately rushed to the Jos University Teaching Hospital (JUTH), where 12 were confirmed dead and deposited at the mortuary, while three other among the ones rushed to Vom Christian Hospital have also been confirmed dead.

Confirming the development, Salisu Nakande of Plateau State Football Association (PFA) described it as unfortunate. He said PFA was contacted by officials of the Nigeria Football Association (NFA), Abuja who has been directed to join Mr Sunday Gambo, another PFA member in conveying the corpses to Yola.

Nakande expressed gratitude to the Chief Medical Director of JUTH, Dr. Ishaya Pam, for his quick response, and for providing vehicles and ambulance to evacuate the dead and other victims who are presently receiving treatment in the hospital.

About one month ago a group of female footballers and their coach also lost their lives in a similar incident when a J-5 bus in which the players were travelling collided head-long with an on coming truck.

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