State of the States

Road Accident Claims 16 Lives

Tixteen persons late Sunday lost their lives in a fatal motor accident involving two commercial buses at Olu Foam area along Akure-Owo road on the outskirt of Akure,the Ondo state capital.

Nine of the dead persons, part of the 14 passengers of a Northern -State bound Fiat bus with registration number KANO XE 513 FGE, were burnt beyond recogni-

The remaining six dead passengers were in the 14-seater Abuja bound Hiace Commuter bus with registration Number LAGOS XR 290 EPE belonging to Zion Escort Transport

Company. Some other passengers of the two buses sustained various degrees of injuries and were

* TOO T

ONDO

From James Sowole in Akure

rushed to the emergency section of the State Specialist Hospital, Akure while the remains of the dead were taken to the mortuary of the same hospital.

According to an eye witness, the buses heading towards the same direction were crushed by a trailer when one the buses was

trying to overtake the other. The two buses, THISDAY gathered, somersaulted several times before one of them, a Fiat bus caught fire which consumed

nine of the occupants. Although the fire was later put out by the firemen from Ondo State Fire Service, but the damage

had already been done.

However, the miracle of the accident was the mysterious escape of twin brothers and two others who were passengers in the bus that got burnt. While the twins were unhurt, the other two sustained injuries.

An official of Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) on condition of anonymity told journalists that the accident happened as a result of reckless driving by the affected vehicles, explaining that the two buses were trying to

overtake each other not minding the on coming trailer

The accident caused chaotic traffic situation on the ever busy road that linked the South West with the Northern states forcing several motorists to divert to the Ovemekun/Adesida Road in the heart of Akure, the Ondo State capital from the junction of the Federal University Technology, Akure (FUTA).

It took the frantic efforts of the men of the FRSC, the Police and the Army before the situation was brought under control as many residents of Akure stormed the scene.

Boko Haram Members Threaten Another Mayhem

The Borno Police Command yesterday said that it had uncovered a plot by the Boko Haram Islamic sect to cause

another mayhem in the state. The state's Commissioner of Police, Mr. Ibrahim Abdu, who disclosed this to journalists in Maiduguri, said the attack was to commemorate the one year anniversary of the death of the sect's leader, Sheikh Mohammed

T 1 1.1. C.:

Borno

Ynsuf

"It has come to our knowledge that some faceless people suspected to be members of Boko Haram are trying to cause mayhem in the state as part of the one year remembrance of their fallen colleagues killed during the July 2009 uprising," the commissioner

added. The News Agency of Nigeria

Boko Harm members. "We have put in place a surveillance team, "Stop and Search patrol," as well as plain clothes

policemen. Police officers have been deployed to strategic positions in the state as part of security arrangements," he said.

Court Strikes Out Suit by 2 DTN Directors

The last has not been heard on the tussle for the ownership of Nigeria's oldest ▲ newspaper, The Daily Times as Justice Binta Nyako of the Federal High Court sit-

LAGOS

By Davidson Iriekpen

by Nwachukwu, restrained the two directors and