

REWA NEWS

2 die, 46 injured in Kaduna accident

By Emeka Mamah

KADUNA —TWO persons died on the spot while 46 others were injured when a trailer carrying people from Zaria to the Abuja 2007 carnival was involved in an accident in Kaduna yesterday.

The trailer, DAF with registration number XB877 NSR, said to be carrying about 55 passengers was allegedly over speeding when it skidded off the road and crashed opposite the Rigachikun Police station, along the Zaria-Kaduna expressway.

The Kaduna state Road Safety Commission (FRSC) had earlier declared the same expressway as accident prone during this season of Ember months.

Eye witnesses said that soon after the accident, the FRSC deployed four of its vehicles on a rescue mission adding that those injured were taken to St Gerald's Catholic Hospital, Kaduna while the two dead persons were taken back to the Emir of Zazzau's Palace from where they would be taken for burial in

accordance with Islamic rites.

"The vehicle was carrying people from Zaria to the Abuja 2007 carnival when it crashed opposite the Rigachikun Police Station near Kaduna .

"It was a lone accident as there was no head-on collision with any other vehicle.

"In fact, the driver was driving very dangerously when the accident occurred. The FRSC ambulance conveyed those injured to the hospital.

"However, the Emir's of Zazzau's palace requested that the bodies of the two deceased people should be brought back to Zaria for burial in accordance with Islamic injunctions and this has been done", the witnesses said.

Sector Commander of the FRSC, Nsebung Charles Akpabio confirmed the story and said that four of its vehicles were involved in the rescue operations.

Akpabio said that the FRSC had intensified its campaign against reckless driving during this season and described the accident as unfortunate.