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Nine die, 13 wounded in Benue road crashes

Written by Peter Duru

Monday, 23 February 2009

MAKURDI—A multiple motor accident in Katsina-Ala local government area of Benue state has claimed the lives of no fewer than six persons leaving eight others hospitalized at the general hospital in the area. According to an eye witness account, the accident happened at noon along the Ugba-Anyi road when a Volkswagen golf being occupied by six passengers ran into a stationary Mercedes 911 parked along the road.

Our sources disclosed that the driver of the Volkswagen golf had his visibility blurred due to the heavy dust raised by another heavy duty truck that overtook him on the dusty road thereby hampering his visibility and the subsequent accident that claimed the lives of three of the occupants of the car.

According to our source, another accident also occurred along the ever busy Katsina-Ala Zaki-Ibiam road when a Peugeot 504 car ran into a packed trailer loaded with cement on the said road and killing three persons on the spot.

Meanwhile, five survivors of the accident are presently recuperating at the general hospital Kasina-Ala, though in critical but stable condition a nurse at the hospital disclosed.

She said the remains of the dead have been deposited at the hospital's morgue advising that those whose loved ones traveled on that route at the weekend and are yet to return should call at the hospital to examine the remains of the dead and survivors for necessary action.

Moreover a paramount ruler of the area who spoke on grounds of anonymity has called on the Federal Road Safety Commission FRSC to increase its surveillance on the routes where these accidents occurred.

He stressing that the area is the hob of yam trade in the state and it would only be proper to increase patrols on the roads given the heavy flow of traffic on the said roads especially during peak hours of trade.

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