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6 die in auto crash

Written by ALIYU DANGIDA
Friday, 17 April 2009

BIRNIN-KUDU, JIGAWA—No fewer than six people were burnt into ashes after a head-on collision between two vehicles on the Bauchi-Kano road, near Faru village, Birnin-Kudu Local Government area of Jigawa State .

Eyewitness account said one of the vehicles, a Peugeot saloon car was carrying five people from Bauchi State to Kano before it crashed headlong into another car coming from the Kano axis, and the two cars immediately burst into flames.

Further investigation revealed that efforts made by sympathizers at the scene of the accident to rescue the victims proved abortive as the raging flame defiled even the efforts of fire servicemen from the state capital, Dutse who arrived the scene much later.

Sometime last year, a similar accident occurred at the same venue leading to the mass burial of over 14 people, it was further learnt that the auto crash victims had since been buried in a mass grave just a few yards away from the scene of the accident, notorious for such accidents year in, year out.

In her effort to avert such accidents on Jigawa State roads, Governor Sule Lamido had constituted a high-powered committee comprising the police, Nigerian Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) and Federal Roads Safety Commission (FRSC) officials among others to monitor vehicles carrying over-load of both persons and goods.

However, the attempt has not yielded positive results. All effort to contact Federal Road Safety official to comment on the incident proved abortive.



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