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Man dies, several injured as lorry overturns in C-River

News Dec 1, 2010

A passenger in a <u>lorry loaded</u> with <u>yams</u> lost <u>his life while</u> scores of others were injured, when the vehicle heading for <u>Calabar from Ogoja crashed</u>, Wednesday.

The vehicle, with registration number AE 685 LA – Adamawa, skidded off the road at <u>Apiapum</u> in <u>Obubra Local Government</u> Area of Cross River State, in its <u>bid</u> to avoid hitting a pedestrian, who was at the time, crossing the road.

When the lorry fell, it spilled its contents, burying some of the passengers, who apparently were on top of the goods.

At the news of the mishap, several locals ran to the scene and were able to rescue passengers, who were trapped under the yams. Several of the victims were rescued but a passenger, did not make it alive, as the truck crushed him under the vehicle.

Efforts by the people, mostly youths to roll over the truck to recover the body was futile as it was too heavy.

Eye witnesses said that the major cause of the accident was the bad state of the road,

which lacked clearing areas due to the deep cuts along the borders of the tarred road.

They said that the phenomenon, which is at both sides of the road stretches about 6kms and narrowing the road to only the tarred section had often put motorists and pedestrians at risk.

They, meanwhile, called on government to urgently see to it that the road sides were filled up to provide opportunity for vehicles to be able to clear off the road, whenever the need arose.

Victims of the disaster, most of whom had major fractures on their limbs were taken to the Obubra General Hospital.

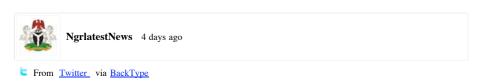
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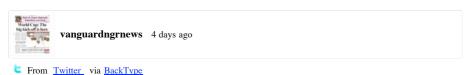
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