



BREAKING NEWS

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Two pupils, three others burnt to death

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Fivepersons including two pupils were yesterday roasted to death when two fuel tankers collided at Asejire area on Ibadan-Ife expressway which caught fire instantly.

Six other persons sustained varied degrees of injuries and are now receiving treatment in the hospital.

One of the dead pupils was said to be waiting for a bus along the road when the raging inferno consumed him.

Several buildings, shops, mechanic workshops and market stalls were completely razed by the fire, which emanated from the spilled content of the fallen trailer.

When our correspondent got to the scene, mangled body of the burnt public school pupil, whose identity could not be ascertained was spotted, just as men of the fire brigade service, Federal Road Safety Corps FRSC and policemen were busy managing the chaotic situation.

The accident according to eye witnesses caused traffic gridlock along the expressway as the section from Ibadan end was closed to traffic while the evacuation of the burnt vehicles was ongoing.

A victim, identified as Tajudeen Bakare, whose residence was completely burnt told newsmen at the scene of the accident that "the tankers while attempting to overtake each other on the hill hit themselves and one of them, carrying petrol spilled its contents into gutters and small stream and suddenly we heard a loud bang and there was fire everywhere".

The unit commander of the FRSC, Egbeda, Commander Abiodun Akinlade who confirmed the accident explained that "around 7.30am, we received a call that there was an accident and on coming down we discovered one of the articulated vehicles had skidded off the road and burst into flames".

According to him, "It is like they were doing competition on the highway, trying to overtake each other. I also understand that a school bus was also trying to pick a child and the fallen tanker affected the bus and we lost two

people there. We also lost two people from the articulated vehicle"

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