

## Fatal crash: How family of three, seven others were roasted to death in a road crash

ON APRIL 9, 2016 3:00 AMIN **CRIME GUARD, NEWSCOMMENTS**

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The family of Thomas Eze in Umudiale-Ohom, Orba in Udenu Local Government Area of Enugu state has been thrown into mourning following the death of their son, Chinedu Eze, 40, a pharmacist, his wife, Chinwenma Eze, 37, and child Chidera Eze aged 3 and a maid who died in a motor accident after a truck rammed into their bus along Lagos-Benin express way at Ufosi, a boundary town between Ondo and Edo states.

### ***Visit to American embassy***

It was learned that the Pharmacist, his wife, and son died on their way back to their home town after going to America embassy in Lagos for visa interview.

### ***Brother laments***

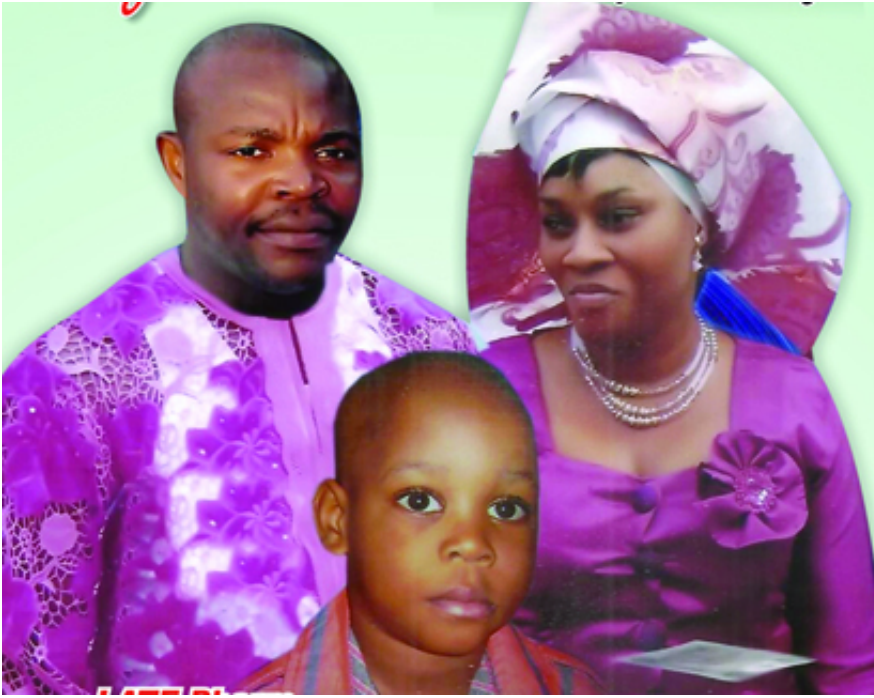
Lamenting, the elder brother of the deceased, Dr Divine Ogbonne told Crime Guard; "Naturally, to everything, especially humans, death is inevitable, but some deaths can actually be prevented, sometimes totally avoided; just like the death of Chinedu, his wife, son, maid and seven others who were killed in the ghastly motor accident."

According to Dr Divine Ogbonne; "They actually came to Lagos to attend an interview at the United States of American Embassy as they wanted to go on vacation to the United States. It was on their way back to Enugu that they boarded a commercial bus in Lagos. Suddenly, a truck rammed into their bus along Lagos-Benin express way.

The 14-seater bus had only seven adult passengers and some children whose names were not written in the manifest. Four passengers were going to Onitsha including my brother and his wife. They wanted to stop at Onitsha while the other passengers were heading to Port Harcourt."

### ***Lone survivor's account***

The only survivor in the fatal crash, a female passenger whose name could not



Eze's family

be ascertained reportedly narrated how the ugly incident took place. "A truck carrying logs of wood rammed into our bus after the driver moved from his lane to the other lane. When he moved to another lane, it collided with the truck. Our bus was carrying a gallon filled with fuel. I warned the driver not to put the gallon of fuel inside the vehicle but he refused."

### ***Narrow escape***

It was learned that immediately the accident happened, the bus caught fire. The female passenger escaped from the bus. As the only survivor, she

was lamenting that she warned the driver not to put the gallon of fuel in the boot. It was the fuel that caused the explosion when the accident occurred. Immediately the explosion occurred, the fuel in the boot aggravated the situation. The woman and the truck driver who managed to escape from the raging inferno were taken to the hospital but the driver died later on in the hospital.

### ***Aged parents devastated by their death***

Dr Divine Ogbonne revealed that when the news reached their aged parents, Chief Thomas, 71, and Mrs. Eze, 65, they were devastated. "When the sad news hit our aged parents who are in the village, it was very devastating, but for God who took control, high blood pressure would have probably killed my parents. Their other children including me have been of great assistance to both of them, to help them deal with the loss of my younger brother, his wife, son, and maid.

### ***Burial arrangement***

The remains of the trio will be committed to mother earth on the 16th of April 2016 in their home town in Enugu state in accordance with Christian rights.