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# 8 feared dead in Lagos, Ogun, Ondo auto crashes

• 25 passengers escape death as luxury bus catches fire

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**N**O fewer than eight passengers, yesterday, died in auto accidents in Lagos, Ogun and Ondo states.

While four passengers died in Lagos accident, three were confirmed dead at the Ogun incident, one person died in an accident in Ondo State, even as no fewer than 25 passengers escaped death by the whiskers in Agbaluku, Arigidi Akoko area of Ondo State as a luxury bus conveying them from Abuja caught fire.

In the Lagos accident, besides the four persons that died, some shops were destroyed by fire when a tipper loaded with sand rammed into a Mazda bus at Age-Mowo on Lagos-Badagry Expressway.

It was gathered that the Mazda commercial bus was picking a passenger at Age-Mowo Bus Stop when the tipper said to be on high speed left its lane and rammed into the bus.

According to sources, the accident resulted in an explosion that trapped the passengers inside the bus, burning four of them to death.

The explosion also led to burning of about seven shops near the scene of the accident.

Burnt bodies of four passengers were evacuated by officials of the Federal



The luxury bus on fire.

Road Safety Commission, FRSC, to a general hospital in Badagry.

A passenger, Mr Godwin Okon, who escaped unhurt said: "Our bus took off around 3:30 a.m from Badagry Roundabout with five passengers. The driver was picking passengers at different bus stops to fill the seats. When we got to the Age-Mowo Bus Stop, the driver stopped for a passenger to get in.

"There was an argument between the conductor and the passenger over fare, and he dropped from the bus. Just like a movie, I saw the tipper speeding and crossing its lane, and all I knew was

that I managed to break the back window and escaped. Immediately I escaped, I heard a loud noise, which resulted in fire."

## Car rams into truck in Ogun

In the Ogun accident where three passengers died, the FRSC, in a statement said the accident occurred around 5:50 am at the Ogere section of the Lagos-Ibadan expressway.

Spokesperson of the FRSC in Ogun State, Florence Okpe, who said the

accident occurred when a Volkswagen marked, GGE175 FM, rammed into a Mack truck with no registration number on it, added that six persons, four men and two women, were involved in the accident.

According to Okpe, a woman and two men sustained injuries, while the remaining three persons died.

## Luxury bus catches fire

In the Ondo incident, where about 25 passengers escaped death, it was gathered that the passengers escaped through the side windows of the bus while others forced the doors open to escape from being roasted in the burning bus.

However, all the belongings of the passengers were burnt to ashes as they watched helplessly.

An eyewitness blamed the non-functioning Ikare Akoko fire station for the gravity of the damage as the villagers and other motorists watched helplessly till the bus was burnt to ashes.

In another development, one person was killed by a truck in Akungba Akoko area of the state while many others sustained serious degrees of injuries.

An eyewitness said the crash occurred at about 3pm yesterday, pointing out that the truck while ascending the Okerigbo hill in the community, lost control and crashed into the victims.