

23 die in Kaduna, Ekiti auto crashes

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THE Sector Commander of Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) in Kaduna State, Hafiz Muhammad, has confirmed that no fewer than 20 passengers died when a bus crashed into a cement trailer and went into flames along the Kaduna-Abuja express way.

Also, tragedy struck in Ilawe-Ekiti, headquarters of Ekiti South-West Local Government Area, yesterday, as an 18-seater passenger bus plunged into a ditch on the outskirts of the town and burst into flame.

In the Kaduna-Abuja express way

accident, Muhammad said the FRSC suspected fatigue on the part of the driver who was moving at night.

According to him, "the bus crashed into a cement trailer and then went into flames. Twenty two people were inside the bus of which 20 died, 17 male adults, 2 women and a minor. They said the trailer was parked when the bus went under it. It was terrible because we always caution bus drivers against night journey.

"There's no law against night journey, it's very risky because most of the accidents recorded along that route are due to night journey."

Journalists gathered that the accident occurred at about 5 am yesterday.

3 persons burnt to death as vehicle plunges into ditch in Ekiti

Eyewitnesses' accounts revealed that three of the commuters trapped in the burning bus were burnt beyond recognition while others who managed to escape sustained severe injuries.

The victims were later evacuated to the Ekiti State University Teaching Hospital, Ado Ekiti.

Contacted, the Public Relations Officer of the Ekiti State Police Command, ASP Sunday Abutu, confirmed the incident but said the command was yet to ascertain the exact figure of casualties.