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11 persons killed in Ogun auto crashes

By James Ogunnaike

ABEOKUTA—Tragedy struck in the early hours of yesterday on the Lagos-Ibadan expressway, after a tanker loaded with combustible substance exploded, burning 10 persons to death in the resultant inferno.

This happened barely 12 hours after one person lost his life in a road crash that occurred around Sango Ota.

The multiple road crash, which occurred at about 2.13 am involved five

vehicles: a Mack truck with number plate AKL 198 ZT; an Iveco truck with no number plate; a Mazda bus with number plate FFE 361 XB; a HOWO truck with no number plate and another Mack truck without a registration number.

The cause was attributed to excessive speed on the part of the driver of the Iveco truck. He was said to have lost control and in the process smashed one of the tankers loaded with petroleum product, before the Shagamu

interchange.

Leakage from the petroleum-laden truck sparked off the fire that ignited the Mazda bus, burning the passengers beyond recognition.

The Public Education Officer for Ogun State Sector Command of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), Florence Okpe, confirmed both incidents.

She said the charred remains were taken to the Olabisi Onabanjo

Teaching Hospital, Shagamu while the burnt vehicles were towed off the road, leaving the tankers for the fuel content to be trans-loaded.

Meanwhile, a travel advisory released by the Federal Road Safety Corps, FRSC, Ogun State Sector Command, informed the motoring public to avoid the axis due to the tanker explosion in the early hours of the morning to reduce the chaotic situation.

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