

Driver, motorboy, 16 others die in Lagos, Abuja auto crashes

By Olasunkanmi Akoni, Luminous Jannamike & Efe Onodjoe

LAGOS—It was a black Sunday yesterday, as a 24-seater passenger bus crashed into a stationary trailer on Lagos-Badagry expressway, killing 15 passengers, including drivers and motorboy on board, while nine others are currently under intensive medical care.

Relatedly, another auto crash in Dutse, Baupma, Abuja, has claimed three lives and left four others critically injured, the FCT Police Command, has said.

The Lagos tragic accident, it was gathered, occurred at a point called, Agemowo, near Mowo, on the Lagos-Badagry highway.

It was gathered that the accident was as a result of over-speeding, resulting in a brake failure, as the bus rammed into the stationary trailer in the process.

Rescue personnel, who rushed to the scene later recovered the bodies from the wreckage with the injured victims.

It was gathered that the passengers chartered the bus from Yaba area of Lagos to attend a group party in the Republic of Benin.

A report by Lagos State Emergency Management Authority, LASEMA, Permanent Secretary, Dr. Femi Oke-Osanyitolu, confirmed that 15 persons died.

According to Oke-Osanyitolu, "An accident happened at Agemuwo bus stop in the early hours of Sunday between a truck and a 24-passenger commercial bus during a downpour."

"The bus driver, who was said to be on a high speed and driving recklessly, lost control and rammed into an oncoming truck."

"14 out of the 24 passengers including the bus driver was confirmed dead on the spot, 10 critically injured and all taken to General Hospital Badagry."

"Further information revealed, one out of the injured 10 was later confirmed dead at the hospital."

"All corpses have been deposited at the hospital morgue, while the nine survival are receiving treatment at the hospital intensive care unit."

Both accident vehicles had been cleared off the road and taken to the police station.

But an official of Federal Road Safety Safety Commission, FRSC, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said those who lost their lives were eight males, five females and a minor.

"Family members of the deceased are on their way to the mortuary to confirm their identities," he added.

3 die, 4 injured in Abuja auto crash

On the Abuja accident, which was reported by a concerned citizen near the Tipper Garage, occurred at 12:30p.m., on Saturday. The deceased have been identified as Hosea Stephen, a 34-year-old male from



The ill-fated vehicles in Lagos auto crash.

EFAB Metropolis Estate, Karasana, Abuja, Muhammad Lawal, a 32-year-old male from Jere, Kaduna State and Bashir Shaibu, a 25-year-old male, also from Jere, Kaduna State.

Reacting to the accident, Josephine Adeh, Police Public Relations Officer, FCT Police Command, Abuja, said: "Our thoughts and condolences go out to the grieving families and loved ones during this incredibly difficult time."

Also, four other individuals involved in

the accident are being treated at Kubwa General Hospital.

They include Maria Ibeku, a 21-year-old female; Ebuka Eleodimu, a 38-year-old male; Joy Adebayo, a 36-year-old female and Bashir Haruna, a 25-year-old male. Notably, the injured parties hail from Mbouko village, Dutse, and Karasana village in Abuja.

In addition to the human toll, four vehicles involved in the accident have been moved

to the police station for further investigation. These include a Black Toyota Camry, a Toyota Pilot, a truck, and a tricycle.

Also, a Toyota SUV, believed to belong to a Department of State Security officer, was removed from the scene by DSS personnel. The driver of the vehicle has been identified as David Audu, a resident of Ushafa.

Meanwhile, the FCT Police Command is conducting a thorough investigation into the incident.

12 killed in fresh attacks on Plateau communities

By Marie-Therese Nanlong

JOS—Residents of Farinkasa Kerana and Sabon Gari communities in Mangu Local Government Area of Plateau State were, yesterday night thrown into mourning following fresh attacks by gunmen, which left 12 persons dead.

This came as Governor Caleb Mutwang has imposed a 24-hour curfew on Mangu council following recent attacks that led to loss of lives and property.

Meanwhile, kinsmen of Governor Mutwang under the aegis of the Mwaghavul Development Association, have renewed calls on the Federal Government to declare the Miyeti Allah Cattle Breeders Association, MACBAN, as a terrorist organisation.

Resident, Mathew Habila, who confirmed the killings in Jos, yesterday, said the victims were killed in their houses Saturday night.

He lamented that the gunmen also set many houses on fire, leaving the two communities deserted.

Habila said: "We have our people killed again in another attack last night. This time, 12 people were killed with several others injured and many houses were burnt by Fulani militia at Farinkasa Kerana and Sabon Gari communities in Mangu districts of Mangu council."

Efforts to get the Police Public Relations

●Declare MACBAN a terrorist group—MDA

●Mutwang imposes 24-hr curfew on Mangu

Officer in the state, Alabo Alfred, to comment on the incidents proved abortive as his phone lines were switched off when contacted by our correspondent.

Declare MACBAN a terrorist group —MDA

Meanwhile, kinsmen of Governor Mutwang under the aegis of the Mwaghavul Development Association, MDA, have renewed calls on the Federal Government to declare the Miyeti Allah Cattle Breeders Association, MACBAN, as a terrorist organisation.

Addressing newsmen in Jos, National President of MDA, Joseph Gwankat, said: "It is in the public domain that MACBAN has been hiring foreign mercenaries to attack communities, including ours."

"Our villages have been deserted due to these attacks and have become grazing fields for the Fulani herdsmen. So far, a total of 204 of our people have been killed in 53 attacks carried out by them."

"We, therefore, strongly suggest that the Federal Government should declare MACBAN a terrorist organisation because of the heinous crimes that its members are

perpetrating in various parts of Nigeria.

"We urge the government to take full responsibility for educating children below the age of 10 who have lost both parents as a result of the attacks, while arrangements are made for the SS3 students whose WAEC exams were disrupted as a result of these attacks."

Mutwang imposes 24-hr curfew on Mangu

The governor, in consultation with the State Security Council, imposed a curfew on the entire council to restore law and order.

A statement by his Director of Press and Public Affairs, Gyang Bere, said: "Consequently, movements within the council have been banned until further notice except for security personnel and persons on essential duties."

"Security agencies have, therefore, been directed to ensure total enforcement of the curfew."

"Meanwhile, the governor has assured the people that the government is working round-the-clock to restore peace and security in the state."