

FAMILY OF EIGHT PERISH IN MPIGI CAR CRASH

BY SIMON SSEKIDDE

Nine people, including eight from the same family, have been confirmed dead and many others seriously injured in a accident, which occurred on Friday evening at a place called Boza, on Mpigi-Butambala road.

According to eyewitnesses, the accident occurred at around 9:30pm when a commuter taxi registration number UAZ 252M, which was heading to Gomba district collided head on with a Toyota Ipsum number UAP 825A, which was coming from Butambala district and heading to Mpigi district. The taxi had members of the same family, going for last funeral rites, according to sources.

According to Joseph Musana, the Katonga regional Police publicist, the taxi driver, who was only identified as Monde, was over-speeding and was lost control of the vehicle hitting the Ipsum which was carrying eight members of the same family who were coming from an introduction ceremony in Butambala district.

Police identified the deceased as Monde, the taxi driver, William Kituula, Yusuf Kigundu, Kyagulanyi, Kyasanku, Topie Wakabulya, Ruth Mutesi, a nurse at Mpigi Health Centre IV, Ivan Mutalya and one identified as Michael.

The injured were identified as; Phiona Namata, Jovia Nakivumbi, Sande, Musa, Beatrice Tumuhimbise.

Injured victims were rushed to Mpigi Health Centre IV in critical conditions, some with broken legs.

There was commotion and a stampede at Mpigi Health Center as relatives, friends and residents of Mpigi town council flocked the facility to check on their loved ones who were involved in the accident.

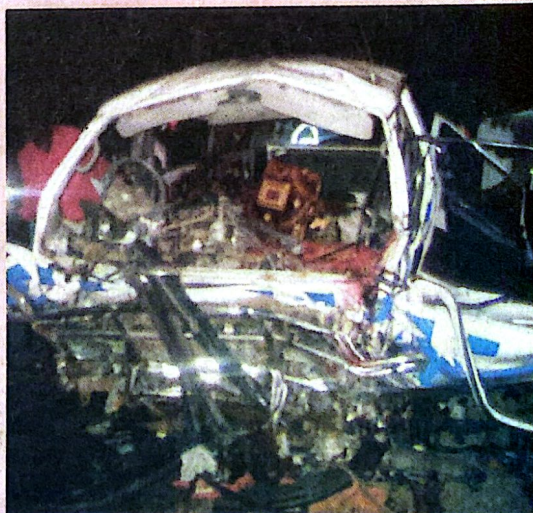
At Mpigi Health Center IV, drama ensued after angry residents and relatives of the injured victims wanted to transfer the victims to Mulago Hospital in Kampala for treatment, but were told that the only ambulance which was called from Gombe Hospital, had no fuel.

Injured victims who lay on the floor of the out-patient ward, were allegedly left unattended to for close to two hours, which annoyed their relatives.

Two trucks were later hired to transport injured victims to Mulago Hospital for further treatment.

The bodies of the deceased were taken to Mulago Hospital mortuary for postmortem and the two wreckages of vehicle involved in the accident were towed to Mpigi Central Police Station.

According to Musana, the Police in Katonga region have launched an operations on all errant drivers as the country prepares for the festive season.



The wreckage of the taxi that was involved in the accident.