

Mhunga Bus Disaster (August 2009)

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Date: August 2009

Location: [Harare-Masvingo](#) Highway

Involved: Mhunga Passenger Bus

Deaths: 40

Injuries: 30 injured

Cause of Accident: Broken down Haulage Truck

ZUPCO and Unifreight buses accident (January 2015)



Wreckage of the Mhunga Bus which claimed 40 lives

Details

Date

August 2009

Location

[Harare-Masvingo](#) Highway

Country

[Zimbabwe](#)

Bus operator

Mhunga Bus Company

Bus owner

Tanda Tavaruva and Sons

Cause

Head on collision with a haulage truck

Statistics

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Deaths	40
Injuries	30
Damage	both bus and truck damaged

Summary

Details

The allegedly overloaded Mhunga Bus was travelling from Harare to Masvingo was involved in an accident after the driver had tried to avoid a haulage truck which had broken down in the middle of the road. The crash killed 40 people and injured 30 more.^[1] The bus driver, who survived the crash, swerved right to overtake and went right into the path of an on-coming truck operated by SRS Trucking Company. In a desperate dash to avoid a collision, he steered the bus further to the right intending to go completely off-road but his bus grazed the left side of the on-coming truck – taking impact away from both drivers who survived. [Air Force of Zimbabwe](#) helicopters helped ferry the injured to Chivhu and Beatrice General Hospitals which were immediately overwhelmed.^[2]

The accident was said to have occurred at a spot close to where the former prime minister [Morgan Tsvangirai](#) and his wife suffered a road accident in 2008. The place began to be known as the Tsvangirai Highway.^[1] This accident resulted in authorities and members of the general public requesting the government to revoke Mhunga Bus Company's licence after a series of accidents which claimed more lives. One chief Musarurwa was quoted as saying, “We appeal to the authorities to do something about Mhunga Bus Company. We can not continue to lose lives through the same bus. This is a second horrible accident from the same company in less than 3 months”.^[3] Soon after the accident, the then Transport Minister [Nicholas Goche](#) announced the company's permit had been revoked and all its buses grounded.^[2]

About Pindula

Pindula is a place to find information about local things on the internet. We do it a lot like Wikipedia, except everything is hyper-local. We started work on Pindula because we needed something like it. There's so little useful information about local things online and we're working to change that

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References

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3. ? , [40 now dead. National bus Disaster declared](#),*ZimDiaspora*, published:3 Aug 2009,retrieved:23 Jan 2015"