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Supplied picture

Seven people were killed and injured 11 others after a minibus rammed a vehicle on the Dubai-Ai Ain highway on Sunday.

## Relatives await news on crash victims

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Dubai: A day after a bus crash killed seven people, a group of Pakistanis wait forlornly on a lawn in front of the Trauma Centre, waiting for news about their relatives, who are alive, but just barely.

Two Pakistanis are still in the intensive care unit (ICU) and the doctor has told Sadiq Ali that the prognosis is not good. Ali's brother, Haji Sardar Ali, and nephew, Rahman, are battling for their life. "The light in front of the room (ICU) is red," he said.

Ali's brother has a wife, a son and daughter back home in Pakistan. "Yes, they know about his situation," he said. "We are poor people. We only hope that they get what is their right," he said.

The knot of Pakistanis waiting are part of a group who shared a room in the labour accommodation with those who are now in the ICU.

Shafqat is also waiting for his cousin Mazhar Iqbal, who had multiple fractures. "Last night he was operated on and a steel rod fitted in his shoulder," he said. Iqbal is out of danger but is under observation.

Meanwhile, the contracting company where these people worked, has been shut in mourning for the dead. "We will close for about four days," said Samir, a manager with Al Qutbi Contracting.

Two Egyptian workers, four Pakistanis and a young Emirati woman died in the accident, when the driver of the company's minibus swerved to take an exit and hit a car driven by an Emirati.

The Emirati sustained moderate injuries while his sister, who was in the passenger seat, died later in hospital. The workers were returning to Dubai after construction work at a mosque.

The bodies of the workers will be sent home today, said the manager.