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Ride Collapse at Taif Amusement Park Injures 23 in Saudi Arabia

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Twenty-three people were injured, including three critically, after a mechanical failure on an amusement ride at Green Mountain Park in Taif, Saudi Arabia, on 31 July. The incident occurred when the “360 Degrees” ride broke apart mid-air during operation, causing part of the structure to fall while passengers were still seated.

Emergency services responded promptly, and those injured were taken to nearby hospitals for treatment. Authorities confirmed that three individuals remained in critical condition as of Wednesday evening. No fatalities have been reported.

The ride, known for its full-circle swinging motion, suffered a sudden structural failure when its central support snapped. Video footage from the scene showed the ride collapsing abruptly, drawing significant attention both locally and online.

Following the event, the park was closed temporarily while officials from the relevant Saudi departments began a full review. A statement from authorities indicated that a detailed examination would be carried out to determine the cause of the failure.

Though serious incidents of this nature are rare, safety remains a core concern in large-scale public venues and entertainment facilities. International data from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has previously recorded an average of 4.5 amusement ride-related deaths per year in the United States between 1987 and 2000. Recent reports emphasise the importance of routine inspections and careful design in preventing injuries during high-speed or high-altitude rides.

The park's operators have not yet issued a public comment, but officials confirmed that the "360 Degrees" attraction would remain offline pending further assessment. The incident comes during the busy summer season, when families and tourists frequent entertainment venues across the region.

Local media have reported that updates will be provided once the investigation concludes.