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Katsina flooded by 13 deaths

Written by Yusha'u A Ibrahim, Katsina Saturday, 16 July 2011 00:00

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In Katsina state 13 people, mostly children and aged women, have been confirmed dead, while several others were injured following a flood disaster that wrecked havoc in various areas within the state metropolis.

According to the state Government assessment committee, three persons including two women sustained fractures, while three others sustained various degrees of injuries as a result of the disaster.

Speaking to Weekly Trust on the preliminary investigation of the committee, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Works and Housing, Alhaji Danjuma Abdullahi Alti said all the injured persons have been treated free of charge at Government owned hospitals.

Weekly Trust investigation revealed that while some of the deceased drowned in a big culvert that passed through various communities within the state metropolis, others were killed by collapsed buildings.

Mallam Abdullahi Aliyu an elder in Kofar-Marusa said that “one of the deceased, Abdullahi Shitu, a JSS 3 student of Government College, Katsina fell into a culvert while trying to rescue a woman who was shouting for help to rescue her two kids.”

Late Abdullahi and Al-Amin Rufa’l, a primary four pupil, Weekly Trust gathered were pushed by water to a neighboring quarters called Tudun-Katsira where their corpses was found a day after the disaster.

Weekly Trust gathered that over 340 houses have been affected by the flood, while 120 houses completely collapsed and properties worth millions of naira were destroyed. When our correspondent visited the affected areas he observed that the areas were congested and have no drainages for easy passage of water. Quarters such as Kofar-Marusa, ‘Yan-Taba, Masanawa, Gafai, Baking, Makuda and Kofar-Yan Daka were in need of roads and drainages to save the residents from the menace of flooding. And even where drainages exist, they were blocked by garbage as the communities are in the habit of dumping their wastes inside them. Weekly Trust also observed that most of the structures affected were constructed on waterways.

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