

Tragedy: 11 perish as canoe capsizes in Kebbi

From Umar Jibrilu Gwandu, B/Kebbi

No fewer than 11 people lost their lives sailing from Brinin Kebbi to Bunga Sabuwa in Dukku, Rima area in Birnin Kebbi, the Kebbi State capital when a canoe carrying 17 people mostly children capsized after hitting a log of wood.

The incident occurred Friday night when the over-loaded canoe hit a big log believed to have been laid in the process of construction of a bridge across the river.

The Chief Press Secretary to

the Kebbi State Governor, Alhaji Abubakari Mu'azu Dakingari said rescue mission had intensified to recover the remaining four missing persons.

Dakingari said the Dukku bridge is still under construction.

A resident of the area, Alhaji Shehu Tela who lost his niece in the mishap said around 8:30pm news reached him that Sa'adatu aged 14 was among those in the capsized canoe. Her body was still missing.

Tela explained, "Those I met told me that 17 persons mostly

children were in the canoe.

"They are all from the nearby villages of Sabuwa, Kalangu and Dango.

"They were on their way home when the incident occurred.

"The canoe hit a big log of wood laid by the bridge construction company, Chinese Geological Company."

Sunday Trust gathered that when the canoe hit the log, some children tried to jump out but got drowned.

Search for bodies continued at the time of filing this report.

Kaduna crisis: Soldiers shot 26 youths protesting against