

# 6 girls drown in Kebbi canoe mishap

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*Gwayaka River*

Six girls have drowned as their canoe capsized in Tindifai village, Dakingari district in Suru Local Government Area of Kebbi State.

Names of the drowned girls are Hadiza Garba, 15, Lauratu Muhammad, 13, Adama Musa, 15, Firdausi Garba, 13, Maryam Abdullahi AbdulRahnan, 13, and Suwaiba Abdullahi AbdulRahama, 10.

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Three people were rescued by driver of the canoe, Umar Faruk, a 13-year old, boy.

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The girls were on their way to a rice farm to harvest paddy rice when the canoe capsized while crossing a river in the farm area.

Confirming the incident, the Chief Press Secretary to Kebbi State Governor, Abubakar Mu'azu Dakingari said remains of five of the girls have been recovered from the river, while efforts are being intensified to recover the remains of the sixth girl.

Speaking to our correspondent on phone, Chairman of Suru local government, Alhaji Umaru Maigandi said the canoe left Tindifai village to a Fadama in the area with nine females onboard before it capsized.

He blamed the mishap on overloading. "The canoe was built to carry five passengers" he said.

The remains of five of the girls have been buried in accordance with Islamic rites. Their funeral prayers were attended by Chairman Suru local government, Alhaji Umaru Maigandi Dakingari, his Council members, the district head of Dakingari, Alhaji Jafaru Haliru, Lamido Dakingari, Sarkin Yamman Barbarajo, Alhaji Abdullahi Abubakar, village head of Tindifai, Alhaji Abubakar Magaji Na-Alhaji, and the village head of Bardejo Tindifai, Atiku Haliru.

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