

herders were reported to him at the time of so far," the police commissioner said.

15 villagers attending Mawlut celebration drown in Sokoto

From Abubakar Auwal, Sokoto

At least 15 villagers have reportedly lost their lives after their boat capsized on the waterway along Shagari Local Government Area of Sokoto State.

Our reporter gathered that the incident occurred Tuesday evening when the victims were going to a neighbouring village to attend the Mawlut Nabiyy celebration, in commemoration of Prophet Muhammad's birthday.

The Chairman of the local government council, Aliyu Abubakar Dantani, who confirmed the incident said, the victims came from different villages.

He said, "They were 25 onboard when

the boat capsized but 10 of them were rescued alive. They came from four different villages, converged on one of the villages and from there they entered the canoe.

"They were on their way to another village for the annual Mawlut festival but the boat capsized before they reached their destination.

"Fifteen persons drowned but their bodies were later recovered and buried according to the Islamic rites."

According to Dantani, four of the victims were from Gidan Raket village, three were from Gidan Dawa, seven from Sabon Garin Sullubawa and one girl was from Tsohon Garin Sullubawa.