

12 Feared Dead In Lagos Boat Mishap

BY ODITA SUNDAY,
LAGOS

TRAGEDY struck again yesterday in Lagos when a ferry boat conveying 18 passengers capsized near Liverpool, Apapa, killing not fewer than 12 persons.

This brought to a total of 16 the number of persons who had lost

their lives through accident on the inland ways in one week.

Because just last Sunday another incident at Takwabay, Bar Beach, also in Lagos, claimed the lives of four persons.

Briefing journalists yesterday in Ikeja, the spokesman for the Lagos Police Command, Mr. Olubode Ojanuni, a

deputy superintendent of Police (DSP) said: "Eighteen persons had boarded a passenger boat at about 10.30 a.m from Ilagbe to Apapa. On their way the propeller of the boat developed problem and the boat capsized."

According to the Police spokesman, six persons were rescued by police men led by

the Commander of Area 'B' Mr. Femi Oyeleye and the Divisional Police Officer (DPO), Apapa who had raced to the sea in speed boat to supervise the rescue operations."

Ojajuni said of the 18 who had set out on the journey, 12 persons were missing.

He however added that the search party, led by the officer in charge of the Police Marine Department, Mr.

Alexander Adeniyi, was still combing the waters for the missing persons.

There were also three survivors among whom was the captain of the boat in last Sunday's mishap, following a quick response by a team of marine police.

Ojajuni told *The Guardian* that police would investigate the causes of the accidents to find ways of putting an end to future incidents of that nature.

Bellview To Hold Memorial Service For Crash Victims