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Tragedy as 25-year-old man drowns in Jos mining pond

From **Isa Abdulsalami Ahovi**, Jos

A TRAGEDY occurred at the weekend at Gyel mining site in Jos South Local Council of Plateau State when a 25-year old man drowned in the nearby pond.

The victim, Alex Davou, after finishing his day's job, went to the nearby pond to bathe where he was swept away by the stream.

Eyewitnesses said that the incident occurred near a tin mining site.

He said: "After the day's work, the deceased entered the river to swim but got drowned. All efforts to rescue him proved abortive.

"His friends, colleagues and other people at the mining site said they tried all they could to rescue him, but their efforts were futile.

"Around mid-day of the next day, the deceased's lifeless body was seen afloat in the river and was quickly recovered by relatives and friends who had been keeping vigil. The remains were immediately taken for burial."

A close associate of the deceased, Bulus Pam, said over five people had drowned in the pond in recent times.

Commenting on the incident, Chairman of Gyel Development Association, Dunka Tanko, said it was not the first time they had lost people in the pond near the Bukuru mini-stadium.

According to him, people died in the same pond last year and the year before.

Another eyewitness, who

claimed he nearly lost his life in the same pond, appealed to government to reclaim it, to stop frequent loss of lives in the pond.

The witness added that criminals sometimes killed people and dumped their bodies in the pond. The late Davou was married and had children.

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