

Corpses Of Three Drowned Teenagers In Ibeno Beach Recovered

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Corpses of a female and two male teenagers who were drowned at Ibeno beach in Ibeno Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom over the weekend have been recovered and buried.

This brings to no fewer than 10 persons reported to have lost their lives between last year and June 2019 at the beach.

Speaking with our correspondent who visited the beach in Ibeno on Tuesday, a witness, Mr Asuquo Isangdighe, a photographer at the beach said the victims were on a road work and thereafter opted for a bath at the

beach.

His words "They were five between the ages of 13 and 19 years-old, two of them escaped from drowning. One of them just finished from the Maritime Academy Oron,"

Isangdighe said the body of the female victim floated to the shores of the river and was recovered and buried at the bank of the river as custom demands on the same day of the incident.

"The two other victim's body were found at the shores of the river on Monday and they were buried too at the bank of the river," Isangdighe said.

Reacting to this, an indigene of Mkpanak, Mr David Akpakop described the incident as very unfortunate and

a sad development in recent years.

He regretted that people do not want to learn. He questioned why the victims would swim in the beach that is not fit to swim.

Akpakop urged the Council Chairman to collaborate with the State Government to set up a task force to stop people from swimming at the beach for now as the beach is not fit for swimming.

He also advised the state government to also set up a rescue team to save people from drowning at the beach.

The Ibeno beach Management Chairman, Mr Peter Akpan, expressed his displeasure at the incident, saying that he was not around when the incident occurred.

"It is a sad situation, I came in on Sunday and the Management team informed me about the ugly incident. We don't want this to happen to us again, we want government to come to our aid and invest in the beach to make it a proper tourist centre,"

"We have a caution board at the entrance of the beach with a warning that Ibeno beach is not safe for swimming. We have also made it known that the beach is an ocean that is not fit for swimming," he said.

Akpan therefore called on the state government, stakeholders, and individuals, to provide life jackets at the beach in order to prevent people from drowning.