

40 die in Rivers boat mishap

By [Bisi Olaniyi](#) 14/12/2011 14:22:00



Rivers State governor, Rotimi Amaechi

No fewer than 40 persons were feared dead on Tuesday in Port Harcourt, Rivers State when a passenger boat carrying 47 passengers capsized and emptied its human content into the Rumuolumeni River. The unfortunate incident, according to reports happened around 9:30 pm while the boat was travelling from high-brow Eagle Island

in the state capital.

The Rumuolumeni River passes through the back of the expansive premises of the Italian oil giant, the Nigerian Agip Oil Company (NAOC) to Iwofe, Port Harcourt.

Seven of the passengers, including a two-year-old baby, had so far been rescued, while divers, as at press time, were still combing the river for corpses of the victims.

Relatives of the victims have besieged the Rumuolumeni jetty; the Rivers State government-owned Braithwaite Memorial Specialist Hospital (BMSH), where corpse of one of the victims was deposited and other hospitals in Port Harcourt, for information on passengers of the ill-fated boat.

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