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Two die as boat capsizes in Lokoja

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TWO persons have lost their lives after a boat capsized in Lokoja, the Kogi State capital.

It was gathered that two bodies had been recovered from the Ganaja river by local divers.

The incident, according to an eyewitness, occurred on Monday night.

The boat was said to be conveying people to Ajaokuta end of the river when it capsized.

The water from the River Niger has overflowed the road and people now use canoe to cross.

An eyewitness said: "The boat had passengers who were crossing from Ganaja to the Ajaokuta end."

Efforts to speak with the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), William Aya, failed as of the time of filing this report.

In another development, the Nigeria Medical Association (NMA) in the state has called on the Federal Government, corporate organisations and international agencies to assist the state with relief materials and palliatives in order to avert an outbreak of diseases at Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) camps following the 2022 flood disaster.

Chairman of the association, Dr Olusola Baoku, made the call during a press conference in Lokoja.

The NMA boss lamented that many people cannot access health facilities, while some children cannot go to school because the flood has affected their schools.

He said that executive members of the association, alongside the state governor, Alhaji Yahaya Bello, had visited several communities affected by the flood in Lokoja, just as he added that the damage done by the flood could not be shouldered by the state government alone.