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Death toll in Lagos boat collision reaches eleven

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BY [Patience ogbo](#)
August 12, 2009 11:57AMT

The police on Sunday said six more bodies have been recovered from the Ikorodu boats mishap which has claimed more than 10 lives.

Police spokesperson, Frank Mba, said, "Six more bodies have been recovered from the boats mishap bringing the total recovered bodies to 11. Nine are still missing. The Marine police are combing the Ikorodu waters in a bid to recover bodies of the victims."

The incident happened at Bayeku local government council in Ikorodu on Friday around 1.30 pm, when a boat conveying 24 passengers from Bayeku to Langbasa developed a mechanical fault in the middle of the water.

Investigation by NEXT reveals that the boat had an engine problem and was in need of assistance. Another boat heading from Langbasa to Bayeku saw the stranded boat and offered to assist.

This proved to be fatal as passengers from the stranded boat started scrambling to enter the rescue boat.

The rush by the passengers caused the boats to capsize and more than 10 persons including a newly married couple were said to have drowned as at Friday.

Police spokesperson, Frank Mba, confirmed the story. He said, "On the 7th of August, at 2.00 pm, a passenger boat with twenty four passenger including the driver and conductor heading from Bayeku in Ikorodu to Langbasa, developed a fault midway causing water to sip into the boat.

"As the situation worsens, another boat heading in the opposite direction with eleven passengers on board attempting to rescue the boat in distress unfortunately due to the desperation and the

stampede by the passengers in the first boat under distress, the boats got sunk."

Mr. Mba said a team of Marine police assisted by fishermen rescued 15 passengers alive and they were taken to the Ikorodu General Hospital; five persons out of the number rescued were, however, confirmed dead.

"Fifteen persons have been declared missing but our team of Marine police are combing the area in a bid to recover drowned bodies," Mr. Mba said.

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reader comments (10)

Posted by [OLUFEMI ADEKOYA](#) on Aug 11 2009

May God grant their families the fortitude to bear the loss.

Posted by [okinba launko](#) on Aug 11 2009

this is really sad. It's about time the government put in and enforce rules on water transportation. This is particularly urgent as the perennial heavy traffic is forcing more people to explore water transportation. Fashola should move quickly before more lives are lost and people get scared off water transport as an alternative means to get from one part of this sprawling metropolis to another.

Posted by [Benny](#) on Aug 11 2009

The deep blue sea "oft where the bones and aspirations of many are interred"do you ravenous creature of nature have pity on the souls of men,kill them not any more ,those that bestrode thy vlolumnious bowel astriding their web to th yonder below"

Posted by [SHOLAX](#) on Aug 11 2009

IT'S SADENING

Posted by [Rotimi Atolagbe](#) on Aug 11 2009

I hope this is old news because two of the victims were people i knew personaly,they have been buried since sunday and as at the time, death toll was already above 11.The unfortunate thing was that these two individuals (Full blown adults)were children of same parent.The father is late and the mum who is still alive is in her late 70s-So much into menopause.Its a sad story we all wish was a bad dream we would wake up from up!

Posted by [Emeystan](#) on Aug 11 2009

May the souls of the departed passengers rest in perfect peace. Amen. Ignorance they say is the worst enemy of man. Passengers plying these water routes needs adequate enlightenment about safely measures b4 the boat leaves. Also, passengers should be mandated 2wear life jackets. I urge the lagos govt. to take necessary action to avoid re-occurrence.

Posted by [Adekunle Samuel Owolabi](#) on Aug 11 2009

The government ought have introduced safety measures or policies before allowing waterways transport in the country. For example, the sub-standard life jackets, i hope we've learnt from this.

Posted by [Olamide](#) on Aug 11 2009

There there are laws regulating water transportation that includes not using the boat you see in the picture for water transportation, having good life jackets for customers and register your ferry with the state government. But trust us Nigerians we do not listen. The started complaining that the state governemnt is trying to stop them from earning a living and blah blah blah and this is the result. Some do not want to register with the government either because they will have to pay tax. The police too do not have the right equipments to help people when situations like this occur.

Posted by [Peter Clavers](#) on Aug 12 2009

The God of mercy will wash their stains away with the water that consumed them, and grant their souls eternal rest.

Posted by [oyedepo_esq](#) on Aug 12 2009

may their soul rest in peace

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