

# 50 die in boat mishap

**Bisi Olaniyi,  
Yenagoa**

IT was a tragic scene in the Angiama axis of the Southern Ijaw Local Government Area of Bayelsa State on Thursday afternoon, when no fewer than 50 persons lost their lives in a boat mishap.

Our correspondent learnt from natives that the wooden passenger boat capsized after running into turbulent waves.

Sources further disclosed that the victims died on the spot, while a few passengers who survived were receiving

treatment in unnamed hospitals in the Southern Ijaw Local Government Area of the state.

It was also gathered that the boat driver and the deck hand tried their best to prevent the mishap, but the boat, which left Angiama not too long before the unfortunate incident, suddenly went down.

The Chairman of the Bayelsa State Maritime Workers' Union, Mr. Sylvanus Egele, in a telephone interview with our correspondent on Thursday evening, confirmed the incident.

Egele, who described the incident as shocking, said a rescue team had been sent to the area to search for more survivors or locate the corpses.

As at the time of filing this report, our correspondent learnt that some corpses had been recovered.

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer, Bayelsa State Command, Mr. Ibokette Iniobong, a Deputy Superintendent of Police, said he would get details of the incident and get back to our correspondent, but he did not do so.