

Boat mishap: Two die in Calabar waterways

MIKE ODIEGWU

AT least, two persons were feared dead when a locally made canoe capsized near a Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation filling station in Calabar waterways, Cross River State.

Our correspondent gathered that the incident happened when the engine of the canoe carrying about 11 passengers developed fault and could no longer sail.

The ill-fated boat was returning from the Creek Town when the fault occurred last week.

Nine of the lucky passengers were said to have been saved by divers who immediately went in search of the boat's occupants.

But it was gathered that two of the passengers were declared missing after the

incident.

Our correspondent learnt on Friday that it took two days for the divers to retrieve their remains even as they have since been deposited in an undisclosed morgue.

A cousin to one of the drowned victims known as Samuel Nsa said the deceased left behind a wife, six children and an aged mother.

He confirmed that Nsa was returning from Creek Town where he had gone for a court case.

He said, "He has been going there for the case but he was not lucky as the boat he was travelling in along with other 10 people sank. While Nsa and one other person died, nine persons survived.

"His death has thrown his wife, six children and his aged mother into mourning."