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3,000 displaced, death toll hits 47 in Jos

July 25, 2012 by Jude Owuamanam, Jos [40 Comments](#)

Nine more bodies were recovered on Tuesday, taking the death toll from Sunday evening's floods in Rikkos, Gangere and Angwan Rogo areas of Jos North to 47, as the number of displaced persons hit 3,000.

Acting Zonal Coordinator for North Central of the National Emergency Management Agency, Mr. Mohammed Abdulsalam, told our correspondent in an interview in Jos that the nine bodies were pulled out of the rubble of caved in buildings on Monday evening.

Abdulsalam said more casualties would have been recorded if some residents had not relocated to the homes of friends in other parts of the local government. He also said over 200 houses were destroyed.

He said, “So far we have 47 persons confirmed dead and about 36 still missing. We have over 3,000 people in displaced camps and the immediate concern is to give them some comfort by providing relief materials.”

The NEMA chief added that searches were still on to find those reported missing by their families.

Meanwhile, there are fears of a possible cholera outbreak within the area affected by floods.

A medical official of the Federation of Muslim Women Association in Nigeria in the state, Tawa Abdulrahama, told our correspondent in Jos that no fewer than 65 persons in various camps were being treated for dysentery and diarrhoea.

“There are already high cases of cholera among victims of the flood,” she said.

Head of Rescue, Jama'atu Nasiril Islam, Alhaji Sabo Shuibu, said the group had buried 30 persons who died during the flood.

Commissioner for Water Resources and Rural Development, Mallam Idi Waziri, who led a delegation to assess the level of damage done by the disaster, said the government would support the victims.

On his part, spokesman for the Council of Ulama Elders, Faruk Musa, said a majority of those displaced were in dire need of medication, accommodation and food.

He also said 327 houses were washed away, with several others badly damaged.

The Red Cross Society said four bodies were recovered from the debris of collapsed structures.

Head of Red Cross in Plateau, Mr. Manasseh Panpeh, told the *News Agency of Nigeria*, "Many of the deceased were discovered in the rubble and banks of Rikkos River in the course of our search for missing persons."

Maikusa, who survived the disaster, told our correspondent that eight children, including a three-month-old baby and her mother, were among 10 members of his family killed in the flood.

He said, "I give glory to Allah for saving my life."

Maikusa said they were sleeping in their homes when the flood swept them away, adding that he had yet to come to terms how he escaped.

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• *Comrade Iso Bassey Edim* July 25, 2012 at 1:10 am

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• *Why Fulani?* July 25, 2012 at 2:57 am

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