

# 16 die in Niger boat accident

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Niger State Governor, Abubakar Bello

**Enyioha Opara, Minna**

TRAGEDY struck between Rofia and Mauta in Agwata village in Borgu Local Government Area of Niger State in the early hours of Tuesday when 16 people were killed when a boat capsized after hitting a tree inside the River Niger.

The boat was carrying about 50 passengers coming from Zamare in Kebbi State when it capsized.

It was gathered that 16 dead bodies were recovered while two persons were still missing and the rest were saved alive by some local divers in the area.

The Public Relations Officer, Niger State Emergency Management Agency, Hussaini Abdullahi, confirmed the incident, adding that the boat hit a tree in the river and broke into two.

Abdullahi said that the agency had been in touch with the community to get the accurate number of those involved in the accident.

He also said the passengers were coming from Kebbi State “to see an inscription by Prophet Muhammad on a stone inside the River Niger.”