

2 Five christening guests die in Niger boat accident

Romoke Ahmad, Minna

FIVE people have been reported dead in a boat accident at the Farar Doka stream in the Mariga Local Government Area of Niger State.

The Niger State Emergency Management Agency confirmed the incident in Minna on Tuesday.

The Director General of the agency, Alhaji Ibrahim Inga,

said, "The passengers were from Unguwan Dan Daudu, heading for Bangi for a naming ceremony. The incident happened at Farar Doka stream due to flooding. There were nine people on the canoe; four were rescued, while five were missing till Saturday when their dead bodies were recovered and taken away."

But Maaruf Kahihum, a spokesperson for the Chairman of Mariga LGA, Ibrahim Idris,

said the boat was carrying about 20 passengers when it capsized a few minutes after taking off.

He added that four people were rescued on the spot.

Meanwhile, the council chairman, Idris, has described the incident as unfortunate.

He sympathised with the families and associates of the deceased, and prayed for the quick recovery of the injured and traumatised.