

# 18 killed, six missing in Katsina canoe accident

**Olaide Oyelude and  
James Abraham, Jos**

**N**OT fewer than 18 persons died when a canoe capsized at a section of a river in Mai'adua Local Government Area of Katsina state on Wednesday night.

Fifteen of the victims who were from Tsabu village were buried on Thursday morning.

Katsina State Commissioner for Local government and Chieftaincy Affairs, Umar Gwajo- Gwajo, was among those who witnessed the burial.

The Commissioner neither picked his calls nor replied the SMS sent to him on the incident on Thursday.

Although details

surrounding the incident were still sketchy, eyewitnesses said the canoe was conveying not less than 24 passengers.

The passengers were also said to comprise mainly people returning to their various villages after celebrating the Eid-el-Fitri.

"As of Thursday morning, we are still searching for six bodies," a source said.

Meanwhile, the spokesman for the state police command, Gambo Isah, has yet to react to enquiries on the incident.

② Two golfers die in Plateau road accident, Lalong mourns

Also, Governor Simon Lalong of Plateau State on Thursday confirmed the death of two golfers who were involved in a road accident in

the state.

The deceased, said to be close allies of the governor, were returning from the Rhino Golf Course in Jos when the accident occurred.

According to a statement by the Governor's Director of Press and Public Affairs, Macham Makut, the accident made Lalong to mark a low-key 59th birthday.

The statement read, "Governor Simon Bako Lalong on Thursday, May 5, 2022 marked his 59th birthday with a low-key celebration which saw only his close family members, few government officials and aides attending the event at his Rayfield residence in Jos.

"The governor cancelled

all elaborate celebrations to honour two young professional golfers he has mentored over the years and have won gold medals for the state including during the last National Sports Festival in Edo State.

"The two young men who are very close to the Governor in the game of golf were killed in an accident while returning from a golf kitty at the Rhino Golf Course in Jos shortly after the Sallah.

"Governor Lalong said he was devastated by the tragic death of the young men who have contributed a lot to the game in Plateau and Nigeria as well as become models for others youths. He prayed for the repose of their souls and God's comfort for their families."

**Group purchases nomination form for Lalong**