

8 die in boat mishap in Kaduna

FROM NOAH EBIJE,
KADUNA

No fewer than eight persons died yesterday when a passenger boat capsized in Sarki Mata village in Kafanchan, headquarters of Jemaa Local Government Area of Kaduna State.

Also, a seven-year old girl died in a flood within Kaduna city.

The flood, which affected several houses in Anguwar Yelwa, a suburb of Kaduna metropolis was as a result of heavy rainfall the previous night, leading to the collapse of a building in the area that killed the girl.

The Executive secretary of Kaduna State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), Mr. Ishaku Makama confirmed the boat mishap incident, and added that the injured ones were taken to hospital for treatment.

However, eyewitnesses said the incident occurred when the boat conveying some passengers from Kafanchan end to Sanga local government devel-

oped mechanical fault midway and suddenly capsized.

The victims who were said to be mainly peasant farmers reportedly drowned before help could come their way.

It was also learnt that the tragedy, which occurred at the boundary between Jemaa and Sanga local government areas left many passengers with various degrees of injuries.

Residents of the area affected by flood came out in their numbers and protested what they called neglect on the part of the state government for failing to fix a bridge linking the area, which resulted in flood over running the houses.

According to an eyewitness, Solomon Daye, said, "We were asleep around 12.30am when we discovered water coming into the house. Before I could jump up from the bed, the whole house was flooded, and within a twinkle of an eye it got to my shoulder, so, we just struggled to find our way into the ceiling, and we started crying for help.

Ibadan 2000 for Jonathan rally

Jonathan next week, will in the co