

Again, canoe mishap claims 2 lives in Kebbi

Ahmed Idris
BIRMIN KEBBI WITH AGENCY
REPORTS

Another canoe mishap has claimed two lives in Yauri Local Government Area of Kebbi State, two days after 18 passengers died when their canoe capsized in the area.

It would be recalled that 18 passengers travelling from Jeribago village in Kebbi State to Tuteku village in Niger State, died on Wednesday when their boat collided with a tree trunk.

Confirming the latest incident yesterday to the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in a telephone interview, the Chairman of Yauri Local Government Area, Alhaji Musa Mohammad, said the canoe left Binua village conveying 11 people to a market in the area when it capsized.

He said: "The village is close to the market; they were going to trade in Yauri when the wave accompanied by strong wind forced the canoe to capsize. Two persons, a Fulani woman and an elderly person, were feared drowned in the river."

He, however, said the

rest of the passengers were rescued after the small canoe capsized.

The chairman blamed the incident on the driver's refusal to heed the warning issued by officials of Nigerian Inland Waterways Authority, not to embark on the journey.

"He was warned by the officials not to embark on the journey because of the unfavourable weather condition, but refused to heed to the advice," he said.

Acting Executive Director, State Emergency Management Agency, Abbas Kamba, also confirmed the incident.

Youths protest

Emmanuel Masha
PORT HARCOURT

Hundreds of youths in Rivers State staged a peaceful protest yesterday in Port Harcourt, the Rivers State capital, over alleged extra-judicial killings and robberies by the operatives of the Special Anti Robbery Squad (SARS) of the Nigerian Police Force.

The youths, who converged under the auspices of