

Seven die as boat capsizes in Rivers



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Seven persons were feared dead while others were declared missing when a boat capsized yesterday on Bonny waterway in Bonny Local Government Area of Rivers State. Reports say that the boat was carrying passengers from Port Harcourt, the state capital, when the accident occurred.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Nnamdi Omoni, a Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP), confirmed the incident, but could not confirm the number of casualties, saying that he did not have the details.

Among those who lost their lives, according to sources, were four adults and three children, but the number of passengers yet to be accounted for is yet to be disclosed. Sources, however, said that rescue efforts commenced shortly after the accident occurred.

A native of Bonny, identified simply as Anderson, who confirmed the number of casualties, has called on Federal and state governments to construct a bridge linking Bonny and Bodo city, to reduce accidents and attacks on Bonny waterway.

He said: "We believe that if we have a bridge linking Bonny and Bodo, all the risks of boat mishap, sea pirates' attacks and other criminal activities will reduce. "We are appealing to Federal and state governments to construct the bridge to reduce the risks of travelling by sea."