

# METRO

...CRIME, CITY WATCH, COURTS

PATRICK OKOHUE

obei2004@gmail.com

08023908041

## ① 26 dead, 30 rescued in Niger boat accident

Daniel Atori  
MINNA

**T**wenty-six bodies have been recovered while 44 are still missing after a boat capsized in Mokwa Local Government Area of Niger State.

The boat accident was said to have occurred at about 8am yesterday, between Jabbe and Kainji dams in the Gbajibo ward of the local government area.

The Niger State Emergency Man-

agement Agency (NSEMA) confirmed that over 100 persons including Women and Children were on board the boat, adding that the victims, who were from Gbajibo, Ekwa, and Yankyade communities, were on the way to their farms located on the other side of the River Niger (old Gbajibo).

The Public Relations Officer of NSEMA, Ibrahim Hussein said that the agency is in collaboration with the Mokwa Local Government officials and the community local divers to conduct a search, rescue, and recovery operation

at the scene of the incident.

He said: "So far, 26 corpses have been recovered while over 30 have been rescued as the operation is ongoing. Over 100 persons are said to be on board the boat when the incident occurred."

The Mokwa Local Government chairman, Jibrin Muregi also confirmed the incident saying that rescue efforts are ongoing.

Meanwhile, the state governor, Alhaji Umaru Bago, has expressed shock over the incident, according to a statement by his Chief Press Secretary, Mr Bologi Ibrahim.

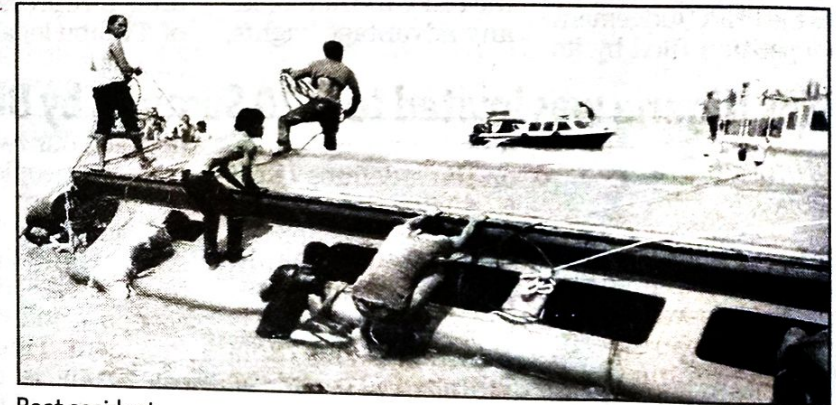
The statement said that Bago described the incident as terrible and undesirable, saying, "this is quite a shocking and sorrowful situation to the people of the affected communities and I share in their sorrow. I pray that

Allah will grant the deceased Aljannah Firdausi."

While commiserating with the families of the victims, the Governor directed NSEMA to do the needful to

ameliorate the suffering of the people.

He, however, reiterated the importance of the use of life jackets when boarding a boat and for people to desist from overcrowding boats.



Boat accident

## ② Two dead, one injured in Lagos-Abeokuta Expressway auto crash

Olufemi Adediran  
ABEOKUTA

jured motor boy had been rescued to a nearby hospital before the arrival of