

# Boat Mishap Claims 3 Lives

**T**ragedy struck last weekend at Sagbokoji village when three traders reportedly got drowned while eight others are now on danger list in a private hospital in Amuwo-Odofin local government area of Lagos state. The accident occurred when a boat in which they were traveling cap-sized midstream.

The accident was said to have occurred last Friday in the wee hours at about 5: 30 am. The fish traders boarded the ferry boat from Sagbokoji to Liverpool in Apapa en-route Igboalejo. It was gathered that the eight injured passengers are now recuperating at Dr. Ajen Private Hospital at Sagbokoji where they were taken by sympathizers for further medical attention after they had received first aid treatment.

When our correspondent visited the place, he was reliably told by Sagbokoji villagers that there had been similar accidents rates in the past due to an existing ship wreck on the route, which has become a death trap on a regular basis on the route.

In his reaction to the accident, the newly elected council chairman of Amuwo-Odofin, Hon. Ayodele Adewale expressed regret over

the recurring accidents stressing that he would provide adequate safety precaution in riverine areas as soon as he assumes office.

He said: "We are going to provide speed boats with life jackets to convey the people, mostly the market men and women to reduce to the barest minimum the incessant ugly incident of ship mishap in the area."

The chairman-elect added that he has sent a condolence message to the families of the deceased, the village heads, chiefs and the entire people of Sagbokoji and Igboalejo to commiserate with them on the tragic incident, praying that such occurrence would not happen again in Amuwo Odofin and the entire State.

Also reacting to the accident an Action Congress (AC) leader in Amuwo Odofin, Alhaji Olowo Shittu, described the incident was unfortunate noting that it occurred at a time when the party had just clinched victory in the just-concluded local government election in Lagos. He prayed for Allah's continued guidance and protection for all wishing that incidents of such nature should not happen again in Amuwo Odofin and Lagos State.