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Boat Mishap Claims 6 Lives in Sokoto

From Mohammed Aminu in Sokoto, 10.26.2009

Six people reportedly died in a boat mishap in Gangam Village, Shagari Local Government area of Sokoto State. THISDAY checks revealed that the incident occurred weekend, when a small boat carrying six persons, capsized in the Shagari River, as a result of heavy windstorm.

The victims drowned in the river before any help could reach them. Councillor of Gangam Ward, Malam Mohammad Danfari, who confirmed the incident to newsmen, said an intensive search conducted in the area to rescue the victims was futile.

He, however, noted that after three days of intensive search, the bodies were found floating on the river and expressed concerns over the loss of lives being recorded regularly in the river in the last one year and appealed to the state government to assist in curbing the trend.

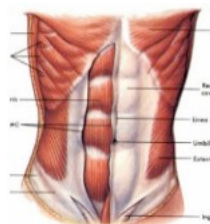
He also appealed to the state government to provide large boats that will be able to withstand heavy windstorm, so as to assist fishermen in the area.

Danfari described the incident as the act of God and prayed against future occurrence. It would be recalled that no fewer than six women died in the River in the last three months.

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