

Suspected Food Poisoning Kills 24 in Sokoto

Onuminya Innocent in Sokoto

No fewer than 24 persons have been confirmed dead as a result of suspected case of food poisoning in Sokoto State.

The State Commissioner for Health, Dr. Ali Inname, disclosed this in a statement yesterday, saying the victims were within a single household in Danzanke

village of Bargaia ward, Isa Local Government Area of the state.

The commissioner said the deceased used fertilizer type known as "Gishirin Lalle in Hausa", as seasoning in cooking food, instead of common salt.

"Regrettably, the entire family who had the meal lost their lives, except two female members, who merely tested the food

and are currently responding to treatment, with very good chance of survival.

"Attempts to save the lives of all the affected people by providing the needed medical care, proved abortive," Inname stated.

The commissioner, therefore warned the general public to "learn from this incidence and

always be cautious in order to prevent such reoccurrence in their families, as now experienced in Sokoto state and Zamfara earlier in the year.

"It is very important for the public to know that this incidence, though preventable and not contagious, is extremely fatal even with best of medical attention and care," he further stated.