

Six die, 10 hospitalised in Niger after beans meal

By Wole Mosadoni

MINNA — TRAGEDY struck in Arabatu and Gwai village in Mariga and Gurara Local Government areas of Niger State respectively when six people including three pregnant women died shortly after eating beans believed to be contaminated.

The deceased from two different families include four women and two children of three and five years respectively.

Also, a goat which took the remnant of the raw beans also died few minute after.

However, ten others who also partook in the beans meal escaped death but are now receiving treatment in the hospital.

Our correspondent reliably gathered that another set of five people from a neighbour-

ing house also escaped death as they were rushed to a nearby hospital and discharged immediately after having "partial taste" of the contaminated beans.

They were also said to have used the mortar pestle used to squash the poisonous beans by the deceased family to also squash their soup ingredients.

The poisonous beans was later traced to the husband of one of the deceased family, Malam Suleiman Chindo who was said to have kept the half bag of beans in his room with a warning that nobody should under any circumstances cook the beans for consumption.

However, out of hunger and without any alternative, senior wife of Malam Chindo defied the order and took out of the beans for cooking not knowing that it was poisonous.