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## Fayemi consoles drowned 7-yr-old boy's family

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ADO-EKITI — Governor Kayode Fayemi of Ekiti State, yesterday, condoled with the family of seven-year old Olamide Ayeni, who was drowned in the flood caused by Sunday night's downpour in Ado-Ekiti.

The boy was said to have been sent on an errand with his elder sister, Faith, but missed his step and fell into a heavily flooded drain while returning home in the rain that lasted over six hours.

Condoling with the family, Fayemi described the incident as pathetic, noting that having lost his deputy, he knew the pains Olamide's parents were going through.

He said: "The loss of any of our children gives one a lot of pains. This is a very young kid, seven years old, an innocent person who has a good future ahead and now we have lost him to an avoidable tragedy. It was a terrible loss. Having lost an older person, my deputy, I know the pain the parents must have felt for losing this child. It is a loss to the family and to the state."

While assuring that government would not relent in its duties of making the environment safe for every resident, the governor urged adults and parents to do everything that would guarantee the safety of their children and wards, adding that the child may have been rescued if an adult were to be at the scene of the tragic incident.

He said: "I will advise all of us, especially the adults to always do everything to guarantee the safety of our children and from what the parents described to me, it could have happened to any child. The drainage was over flown with water and the kid did not know that the place was a drainage because water was already full at the time.

"We must do everything to protect our children. Government will do its duties and ensure that proper drainage is put in place. Incidentally, this is an area where we have just done the road unlike before when there was no drain at all, it would have been worse."

He however prayed to God for the repose of the soul of the child as well as grant the parents the fortitude to bear the loss.