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Homeless boy drowns in Calabar drainage

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By Emma Una

CALABAR—It was a pitiable sight yesterday, when the remains of a street urchin that died while swimming, was carried through the streets of Calabar, Cross River State, by his friends for burial.

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The homeless boy, simply identified as Daniel, drowned, yesterday, while swimming with his friends in a drainage popularly called Big Gutter, in Calabar, the Cross River State capital.

The boy, who is about 10 years old, according to one of his colleagues, drowned at 12 noon, while swimming with others in the drainage around Atu Street, where the volume of water is high.

One of his friends said: “He did not know how to swim. But some boys forced him into the water in Big Gutter, and he drowned.”

The body was carried by four of his friends through Target Street, heading to Bogobiri, the Hausa quarters, where they said arrangements would be made for his burial.

“We are taking him to Bogobiri, where we stay, so that we can make plans to bury him,” Effiong, one of the boys said.

He was later taken to the Goldie Cemetery, where he was buried by some adults.