

Collapsed building: Victims take refuge in churches, mosques


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SURVIVORS of the collapsed four-storey building in Lagos and occupants of nearby buildings slated for demolition, have appealed to the Lagos and

federal governments to come to their aid.

They are seeking rehabilitation even as some of them have taken refuge in nearby churches and mosques.

It would be recalled that the said building located at 56, Bola

Street, Ebute-Metta, Lagos Mainland local government collapsed last Tuesday, killing about 42 persons. 

Also, adjoining buildings constructed by developer of the collapsed building, Lakuns Investment Nigeria

Limited, have been marked for demolition with their occupants given quit notice, by the state government.

In an interview with *Daily Champion*, some

Continues on page 6

Collapsed building

Continued from page 1

victims complained of lack of fund to secure alternative accommodation, while others bemoaned the one-week ultimatum given them.

The time frame, according to them, was too short to secure any accommodation.

According to Kunle Oderinde an applicant, graduate of sociology from the University of Lagos (UNILAG), it is only government that can raise needed money for another accommodation within such a short notice.

He said, "we want the state government to assist us with alternative accommodation because we cannot raise N510,000 for another

accommodation within the time frame the governor gave us, if only they can extend it to about three to four monthss, it would have been a better idea.

"As it is now, we have scattered our families and properties. In fact my electronics are in our mosque while furniture are with friends and relations.

"My wife and children have gone to my uncle's house," he explained.

Speaking in the same vein, team leader of Red Cross'Emergency First Aid, Mr. Adejumobi Adetokunbo, told *Daily Champion*, that "we want the Nigerian government and individuals to please give relieve materials to the survivors. They

have no where to go, they are in pains."

Adetokunbo, however, urged public spirited individuals and organisations to assist the displaced through the Red Cross Society.

He also confirmed that the police, Julius Berger Construction company and other rescue team left the site last Saturday, adding that the Red Cross has opened a register for the families of both survivors and the dead. He said, "we shall monitor the number of dead, hospitalised and living."

Meanwhile, some occupants of 42 and 49 Ibadan Street, 77b Bola Street, a three storey edifice at Cole Street opposite Ago-Egba Primary School and two buildings of 48 flats of Ademuyiwa Street, were sighted by the *Daily Champion*, moving out their belongings.