

Flood kills 60-year-old man, boy in Awka

ODOGWU EMEKA ODOGWU,
Awka

At least a 60 year old vulcanizer identified simply as Ochie or Uwantuari from Inyi Achi Local Government Area, Enugu state and an unidentified seven-year-old boy were feared drowned at the Iyagu flood chain yesterday after a heavy down pour that lasted for over three hours.

The corpse of the vulcanizer was immediately recovered after the heavy down pour, while that of the boy, who was sent on an errand is yet to be recovered at press time.

The incident occurred when the vulcanizer according to sources drank himself to stupor while on and left his work station at the junction of Regina Ceali hospital along Zik Avenue Awka and in the process miscalculated and fell into the water channel.

His alarm for help could not yield, result as eye witnesses could not venture into the flood. He died and his body was later recovered

at the canal near Choice Hotels along Arthur Eze Avenue.

Many buildings were submerged by the flood as residents cried for assistance for re-channeling of the Iyagu flood plain in Awka with others complaining that the gutters are not deep enough.

Meanwhile, the Special Assistant to Governor Peter Obi on Media and Publicity Mr. Valentine Obienyem has said that unless the Iyagu water flood channel is reopened, the problem of flood would continue in Awka while describing as mischievous any connection of gutters to the alleged death of the vulcanizer.

According to him, "those drainages blocked at Iyagu estate by the previous administrations is a cause of this flood disaster in Awka, and Obi is now out to correct it to avoid any further loss of lives and property".

Daily Champion recalls that Governor Peter Obi recently awarded contract of over N132 million to tackle the Iyagu flood permanently.