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Day collapsed building killed 14 teenagers in Kebbi

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A family went to bed oblivious of the danger that lurk around in the morning, they woke up to mourn the death of 14 teenagers killed by collapsed building; it had been soaked by late night heavy down pour.

It may take sometime for the families, friends and people of Angwar Binachi in Gwandu Local Government Area of Kebbi State to get over the unfortunate incident of the collapsed building which killed 14 teenagers in one day.

The unfortunate incident happened during a heavy downpour across the 21 local government areas of the state.

That night, it was gathered that fifteen boys had the choice to sleep in one of two houses. Their choice proved fatal, because they opted to sleep in the building that would later collapse while they slept; 14 of them were killed.

According to eyewitness accounts, some of the boys were already asleep before the ill-fated rain of that night began. However, they were forced to leave the rooms of the building they initially occupied because its roof leaked. It was gathered they all went to sleep in the building that was next to it and which was to later cause their deaths leaving only one of them, Farouk Malam Dan Karami, the boy who claimed he woke his other colleague from sleep to move to the ill-fated building to tell people about what happened in the night of that incident.

Farouk it was learnt was discovered the following morning beneath the rubbles and mud of the collapsed building like his other colleagues but he was mysteriously found alive while others are stone dead.

Narrating his ordeal to our correspondent in the mist of teeming sympathizers who came from around the town to see the miracle boy, Farouk said "we were sleeping when the rain started. I woke my colleagues up to move into the rooms but no sooner than we went in, we discovered that the roof of the building was leaking so we decided to move to the next building. One of us was sick so we all decided to move to the same place and we slept off".

He continued that when the rain became intense "I only heard a bang and that was the last thing I heard until later that I found myself trapped under the mud. That night, I could hear some of my colleagues screaming for help but I didn't know what has happened until I saw people trying to pull me out from the mud the following morning. It was sad that all my friends that I played with till we went to sleep that night were dead the following morning, Allah knows better"

Alhaji Sodangi, the old man who claimed he owns the collapsed building told our correspondent that the house was built 15 years ago. He said "yes, the house belong to me. I have 3 of such houses around here. It was indeed shocking to me that the building could just collapse like that and kill the boys. I guess it was due to the heavy rainfall assisted by the wind. It was sad for the entire community here when we woke up in the morning to see them all buried by mud; the building's blocks were made of mud. We tried all we could but only Farouk was found alive"

For the ward head of Binachi, Alhaji Malami Garkuwan Gwandu the incident was a disaster that will not be forgotten in a hurry. The ward head in a sad mood told our correspondent that "we have never experience this type of disaster before in this area. We are still in shock. It was disheartening to lose 14 young promising boys in one day. But we cannot query Allah". He however appeals to government to help the community with drainage system to avoid flood and occurrence of such disaster in future.

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