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Another building collapse in A/Ibom kills 2

By Dickson S. Adama, Uyo | Publish Date: Dec 20 2016 2:00AM

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Another building collapse has occurred in Urua Edet-Obo market at Ikot Akpatek in Onna Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State,



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killing two people and injuring 17.

Onna is the country home of Akwa Ibom State governor, Udom Emmanuel.

The incident which occurred yesterday came barely a week after a Church building tragedy that killed scores of worshipers at Reigners' Bible Church in Uyo, the Akwa Ibom State capital.

A witness said bodies of the victims had been deposited at Immanuel Hospital in Eket Local Government Area.

"The building of the market collapsed today and ended the market day. Urua Edet-Obo is an old market in existence for over 60 years. It was only renovated three years ago," the witness said.

The Police Commissioner, Akwa Ibom State Command, Mutala Mani, confirmed the incident to newsmen on the telephone.

"Only two women died during the tragedy caused by the collapse of an old wall that fell on them, while a lot others have been taken to the hospital for treatment. An old wall fell on them and unfortunately, they died," Mani said.

In his reaction, Akwa Ibom Commissioner for Works, Mr. Ephraim Inyang-eyen who is also an indigene of the area, charged the people to stop spreading rumours on the incident.

Meanwhile, the Nigerian Institute of Town Planners (NITP), Akwa Ibom State Chapter, after an emergency meeting yesterday, condemned the collapse of Reigners Bible Church building, saying the area was declared "a conservation area" by the state government since 2002 because of the active erosion prone nature of the site.

The institute in a statement issued by its acting Chairman, Dr. Beulah Ofem and made available to newsmen in Uyo, said records at their disposal showed that the development at the site was carried out outside the ambit of the law as several contravention and stop-work-notices dated March 6, 2013, July 19, 2014, March 1, 2016, July 20, 2016 and demolition marking/notice issued to the developer of the project on August 16, 2016 were ignored.



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