

NEWS

Monday, October 19, 2009

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Africa
World
Business

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Editorial
Columnists
Contributors
Letters
Cartoons
Discussions
Outlook

SPORTS

Home
Abroad
Golf Weekly
Results

FEATURES

Focus
Policy & Politics
Arts
Media
Science
Natural Health
Law
Education
Weekend
Friday Review
Executive Briefs
Fashion
Food & Drink
Auto Wheels
Friday Worship
Saturday Magazine
Sunday Magazine
Ibru Ecumenical
Centre
Agro Care

BUSINESS SERVICES

Property
Appointments
Money Watch
Market Report
Capital Market
Business Travels
Maritime Watch
Industry Watch
Energy Report
Insurance
Compulife

Monday, October 19, 2009

Three die in Ogun building collapse

From Charles Coffie Gyamfi, Abeokuta

A 30-YEAR old building collapsed at the weekend in Abeokuta, Ogun State killing three persons and seriously injuring nine others. Those who died were fast asleep when the building built on a rock collapsed. The incident occurred at 11:35p.m.

The incident occurred at Oke-Parde area of Ijeun Titun. The dead are two siblings, Mr. Kayode Sormekun and Iyabo Soremekun as well as a young cobbler simply identified as Saheed.

The injured were rushed to the Federal Medical Centre, Abeokuta where they were admitted for treatment. Firemen were reportedly informed as soon as the tragedy occurred but there was little they could do since the three had died before their arrival.

The Ogun State Commissioner for Environment, Adeleke Adedoyin visited the scene of the building collapse and expressed government's regret over the incident.

Adedoyin blamed the area's "topography" for the collapse. He said: "The topography of the building is the major factor for the collapse. It is one disaster too many. The building was not well structured; I learnt it was 30 years."

The commissioner appealed to residents to be cautious when choosing sites to build their home and promised government's assistance for the family of the victims.

He also advised them to insure their persons and property against such mishaps.

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