

## Collapsed Synagogue Church's update

# Woman walks out of rubble as death toll hits 60



T.B. Joshua pointing at the collapsed church building

**T**HE death toll from a collapsed guesthouse at the Synagogue Church of All Nations, Ikotun, Lagos yesterday has hit 60 as more bodies are recovered. Eight bodies were pulled overnight from the rubble, Ibrahim Farinloye, southwest coordinator for the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), told journalists.

Farinloye said rescuers extracted a woman alive from the building's rubble Tuesday morning. She was able to walk away from the collapse with just a broken wrist. The discovery prompted rescuers to slow down their digging in the wreckage of the guesthouse.

"It's going to be slower because we believe we can recover more people alive by the grace of God," Farinloye said, adding that rescuers were focusing on the area around the hostel's restaurant, where previous survivors have been found.

A total of 131 people were in-



The collapsed site

jured in the collapse of the hostel, which housed Nigerian and foreign followers of the popular preacher and televangelist TB Joshua.

Joshua's network of churches and a television station have attracted people from around the world to

Lagos with promises of receiving miracles and prophecies from the man followers dub "The Prophet".

Joshua has suggested that a low-flying aircraft was responsible for the collapse and released security camera footage apparently showing

a plane flying four times over the hostel before its collapse.

Rescuers say additional floors being constructed on top of its existing foundations overburdened the building. Lagos state government officials are investigating the cause of the collapse.