

1 Akwa Ibom collapsed building: Council disowns engineer, seeks prosecution

From **Joko Falaju, Abuja**

FOLLOWING the collapse of a building last year at Aka Road, Uyo, the Akwa Ibom State capital, the Council of Registered Builders of Nigeria (CORBON) has disowned the builder, insisting that he is not its member.

The site engineer, Felix Anietie Udoh of Felixzity High Technology Limited, who was recently arrested by the Anti-Robbery Squad of the Akwa Ibom State Command, was said to have confessed not to be an engineer, but a builder.

Recall that on September 17, 2022, a four storey building situated at 3, Iman Street, behind Zenith bank, off Aka road, Uyo, caved in, killing Favour Chukwuemeka Okoro, while five persons were rescued.

However, CORBON in a statement, upheld that following a thorough review of the register of builders in Nigeria, established pursuant to Sections 8 (1), (2) and 9 (1), (2) of the Builders Registration Act CAP B.13 LFN 2004, the name Felix Anietie Udoh was not contained in the register of Builders, licensed to practice in Nigeria

as at September 5, 2023. According to the council, if the site engineer had been a builder based on his confession to the police, he would have committed an offence under Section 19 (1) a, b and m, which state that: Any person, not a registered builder, who for, or in expectation of reward, practices or holds himself out to practice as such; or without reasonable excuse, takes or uses any name, title, addition, or description implying that he is authorised by law to practice as a registered builder, commits an offence punishable under this Act.

The professional body further requested and urged that the said Udo be prosecuted in accordance with the provisions of the Builders Registration Act, saying they are willing to testify and support the prosecution of the suspect in every way possible.

They affirmed that without any fear of contradiction till date, no builder has been involved in managing the production process of any collapsed building in Nigeria, thereby enjoining members of the public to protect their investments and be discerning, by engaging

only registered builders for production of building construction projects.

While disclosing plans to soon circulate publicly the list of Registered Builders, licensed to practice in Nigeria, the council urged that enquiries on builders could be directed to the body.

2 Four killed, others injured in Ilesa cult clash

From **Timothy Agbor, Osogbo**

FOUR persons were yesterday reported killed in a renewed cult war that has lasted four days in Ilesa, Osun State.

The latest deadly encounter started last Sunday after

front of a beer parlour, while the other was found dead at Imo junction close to the bar.

However, apparently on a reprisal mission, another gang of cultists struck, yesterday afternoon, killing two persons at Saho area, along

"Both victims were said to be residents of Muslim Area in Ilesa and they were alleged to be members of Eiye cult group," the source added.

The Guardian gathered that four expended cartridges were recovered at the scene