

# Two Killed In Blocked Drain

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Tragedy struck at Oyingbo market on Tuesday afternoon as two men working on a blocked drain got trapped and were confirmed dead minutes later.

The two Hausa labourers were hired along with two others by market women to clear the drains, after recent rainfalls, which have been causing heavy flooding.

A witness told *Daily Independent* that two of the labourers on arriving at the scene had entered the drain to commence the deflooding exercise when the tragedy occurred.

"They were hired by the women in the market to come and clear the

drain which has been blocked for a long time and has been causing flood in the market. "Four of them came to do the job. When they arrived, two of them first went in to the drain to clear the entrance and as they were going, it was like they came across an obstacle, which they tried to clear and in the process of removing it, it was like they cleared the way for the water which had been stuck in the drain.

"So the other two that were behind said they heard a loud noise from them. Still they didn't know that their colleagues had been trapped. They were expecting them to come out and after some time when they did not notice anything from them,

they raised an alarm," said a man who pleaded anonymity.

Olushoga Adeoye, who witnessed it, said the drain is a very deep one with slabs.

"They went under it through a channel. So what happened was that they had gone far under the drain and it was like they got to a place where they could not move again, and they made a noise to alert the other men that were outside, but those ones took ignorant of it and waited till they died", he said.

Men of the Nigeria Police, Denton Division were on hand to control the situation as hundreds of people gathered to mourn the victims.

The Divisional Police Officer (DPO), Kayode Turner, confirmed

the incident and said his men were alerted as soon as an alarm was raised and immediately rushed to the scene.

According to him, the tragedy occurred on Monday evening, but the other two who escaped failed to alert people on time.

Turner said the police had to send for Julius Berger Construction Company to help in bringing the dead men out.

Also, men of the Lagos State Ambulance (LASAMBUS) were seen with their vehicle stationed at the scene of the incident.

One of the victim, who was identified as Danladi, was removed at about 4.45p.m., while the other, Garuba, had not been removed as at press time.

**Robbers Bungle**