

One killed, several injured in Ibadan building collapse

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BARELY three days after flood swept away about 40 people in Ibadan, another disaster struck on Friday as a building collapsed during which a middle-aged man suspected to be a bricklayer was killed.

Located inside the Young Men Christian Association's (YMCA) premises on Cele/Joyce 'B' Road,

off Moshood Abiola Way (former Ring Road), the hall that was at about 90 per cent completion stage collapsed on the late artisan.

The deceased was said to be working in the building with two of his colleagues, though escaped with serious injuries and were rushed to a nearby hospital by eyewitnesses, men of the state fire service and policemen.

An eyewitness recounted that

the late artisan could not escape like two of his colleagues because he was working close to the roof of the building with the aid of a wooden staircase erected at the frontage, only for the staircase to suddenly cave in. According to the eyewitness, "immediately the staircase caved in the man held tightly to the roof; but unfortunately for him the wall at that side of the building that has already

shown signs of crack caved in and trapped him". The source added that "the deceased's two other colleagues that were at the feet of the wooden staircase were trapped also, but they were quickly rescued the people around.

Efforts to get comment from YMCA, the supposed owner of the collapsed hall, proved abortive as none of their members was available.