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Collapsed building: Three decomposing bodies recovered

SYMPATHISERS wept openly as three decomposing bodies of construction workers trapped in the collapsed three-storey building in Lagos were evacuated yesterday.

The Nation had reported yesterday about an offensive odour emanating from the rubble of the collapsed building.

The odour was interpreted by rescue workers and sympathetic member of the public to mean that some victims may be trapped. At about 2.30 pm yesterday, bodies of Alimi Aliu, 36, Adams Shuaib, 36, and one other victim who could not be identified due to the mangled nature of his head were sighted under the rubble following the deployment of relevant evacuation equipment to dig into the rubble.

The evacuation of the bodies came three days after the incident occurred in which 12 victims, all construction workers at the site and who had retired for the night before the building collapsed. Of the 12, six were unhurt while six who sustained injuries

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were hospitalized and discharged two days later. More tears flowed yesterday when one Hassan Shaibu narrated how he brought one of the deceased, Alimi Aliu to work on the site as a casual labourer.

Aliu and another deceased, Adams Shuaib as well as Hassan hail from the same village, Otoroki, Ihina council of Kogi State.

Hassan Shuaibu, who identified the bodies, described their death as shocking.

According to him, it was the very day that Aliu accompanied Adams Shuaib to do the casual work that the incident occurred.

He explained that before now Aliu resided in Abuja before he fell victim to the demolition exercise of the authorities in the Federal Capital Territory.

His house was bulldozed, necessitating his relocation to Lagos. Both deceased persons left behind a wife and one child each, Shuaibu said, amidst tears.