

Four kids of same parents washed away by flood in Anambra community

NANKA Community Orumba North local Government Area was thrown into mourning when four children from the same parents were washed away by an erosion flood on their way back from a stream at the Amako -Ubahu erosion channel.

An eye witness Elder Josiah Umeano said the four children of Mr and Mrs Elijah Ezekeke of Amako village were on their way back from their river called Odo inside the erosion site when they flood from rain fall washed them away.

According to Elder Umeano who is the Secretary General of Nnanka Patriotic Union, the flood did not come from Nnanka but from other communities where rain had fallen but uses the channel in Nnanka as exit root when it suddenly came up on the kids and washed the youngest away.

Elder Umeano who spoke on behalf of the family said others

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were also washed away when they tried to rescue their brother only to be dislodged by the heavy flood and washed all of them away up to Amaokpala region where they were picked dead. He lamented the predicament the community is passing through in the menace of erosion without aide from anywhere.

Elder Umeano said, "it is not only this tragedy that we are worried about, we are also worried about the 330 KVA high tension that is about to be washed away by erosion and if that is done the entire community would be in trouble either they would be electrocuted or other dangers as well as all the places the line went through, even former Senator Eriobuna attracted assistance from the Federal Rural Electrification to relocate the High Tension but they have abandoned the project and

carted away the money. we are in trouble here and something need to be done".

An Environmental Activist based in the United States of America Mr Ikenna Ezenekwe who conducted newsmen round the erosion sites and the stream that carried the four children from his village said, "it is unfair that the people of Nnanka have been abandoned in the erosion scheme despite the ravaging menace of erosion in his community. I appeal on the state Governor Mr Peter Obi who I am thanking for other rural erosion sites he has been handling to come to the aide of my community since it is now threatening both arable land, property and lives".

Traditional ruler of Nnanka community Igwe Gilbert Nwabueze Ofomata told newsmen that the erosion which has defied their communal efforts have consumed over 50 houses and that 15 lives have been lost on the menace with the latest the killing of 7 during a land

slide last week in Amako. He said over 18 other houses will soon be washed away as they are on the erosion line and appealed that the community be provided with pipe born water and roads as they have no roads now nor portable water as the only source of water for the community is the Odo water which they fetch and boil before usage even as he said the numerous victims of the ravaging erosion menace are now refugees in their own land.

Igwe Ofomata appealed to the Federal Government and International Non Governmental Organizations to come to the assistance of the community since their bad plight had been turned to a sight seeing place by students and Para-military organizations rather than the assistance they needed saying they have spent over 100 million naira in communal effort which have always been washed away by erosion

saying.

His words, "Nnanka has the biggest erosion site in Nigeria and nobody is talking about it and soon another land slide will happen and wipe away the entire community swallowing up every body. People from war college and Jaji now come here for sight seeing which ought not be.

We are calling on Mr Peter Obi the Governor of Anambra state and the Federal Government. It is not even only that, we are calling on International bodies like United Nations to come to our aid because we are now a confused and endangered specie. That is why this young man Ikenna Ezenekwe brought you people to see yourself. We are tired of the whole situation because nobody talks about it may be because he is an Environmental activist and knows how to go about it. You people should tell them that we are on the mercy of erosion and if nothing is done we are all washed away by erosion please".