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• The rubble ... yesterday PHOTO: ADEJO DAVID

Three dead, 11 injured as building collapses

Posted by: [Miriam Ekene-Okoro](#) and [Precious Igbonwelundu](#) in [News](#) 11 hours ago

Three families were left to mourn the tragic end of their own on Wednesday night. A three-storey building at 15, Alli Street, off Tinubu Square, Lagos, collapsed on a six-bedroom bungalow, killing three persons. Eleven others were critically injured.

An eyewitness, Mojeed Ibrahim, said: "I heard a sudden loud bang. It was as if there was bomb explosion. As I ran for safety, I saw

heavy bricks from the house flying about. I was lucky to have escaped unhurt, but the younger brother of a nearby Suya seller sustained head injury."

Most residents of the bungalow were said to be at a nearby football viewing centre watching an English Premier League match.

A resident of the ill-fated bungalow, Joseph Owoye, told The Nation: "I usually go to bed around 9.30pm, but that night, I went out to buy food and watch Arsenal football match on Bamgbose Street with some boys when the incident occurred. If not for the match, there could have been more casualties."

The Director, Lagos State Fire Service, Rasaq Fadipe, said: "We got a call at 10:32pm and immediately mobilised to the site. We rescued 10 people various degrees of injuries. They are receiving treatment at the Lagos Island General Hospital, while the bodies of the three victims have also been deposited at the mortuary."

Also, General Manager, the state Emergency Management Agency (LASEMA), Dr. Femi Oke-Osanyintolu, said all stakeholders in the state were involved in emergency operations, adding that LASEMA used its sophisticated equipment for a thorough search to recover the dead victims and rescue the injured ones.

"We will carry out our investigations to ascertain the cause of the collapse. The Commissioner for Physical Planning and Urban Development and his Special Duties counterpart were on ground. We have condoned off the area," he said.

Investigations revealed that residents of the building had vacated the premises but returned to remove their fittings, which they sold in front of the building before the incident. A source said the forceful removal of the fittings weakened the building and contributed to the collapse.

A member of the Lagos State House of Assembly, Hon. Akeem Masha, who represents the Lagos Island Constituency, described the incident as sad.

He urged Lagosians to always report any dilapidated structure in their areas to the state or the Local

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