Five die, five rescued in Lagos building collapse



Five persons died yesterday when a building collapsed in **Lagos**. But five others were rescued from the rubble.

The building at No 13, Wilson Mba St, Arowojobe Estate, Mende, Maryland collapsed at 3:49am. Emergency workers moved to the scene immediately, launching a search and rescue.

Rescue teams, including local firefighters, medical personnel, and volunteers, worked to locate and extract survivors. Three of the rescued persons were taken to Gbagada General Hospital while the others to nearby hospitals for treatment.

Head of the Search and Rescue Unit, National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Lagos Territorial Office, Mrs Ibitayo Aderonke, told The Nation: "All the men were site workers. They received pre-hospital care on location before being transported to the hospital while the State Environmental Health Monitoring Unit (SEHMU) was contacted for the remains of the five fatalities."

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Director of the Lagos State Fire and Rescue Service, Margaret Adeseye, confirmed the ongoing nature of the rescue operations. "Our thoughts are with all those affected by this tragic event," she stated.

A friend of six of the victims, Adewale Ayuba, said: "We came from Ibadan yesterday (Wednesday) to work on this site. It has been a long time since we saw each other. We started eating together, talking till 10 yesterday night."

Though the cause of the collapse is yet to be known, initial reports suggest structural weaknesses. A resident on the street, Mrs Yusuf Jumoke, advised the government to conduct an integrity test on buildings to reduce the problem of building collapse. She said she got to know about the collapse when her neighbour screamed as she was sleeping as at the time of the incident.