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29 Akwa Ibom Indigenes Die in PHCN Electrocution Tragedy

Edwin Atteh



Following the last week tragedy that struck in the slaughter area of Trans Amadi Industrial layout in Port Harcourt metropolis, where 84 people died through electrocution from the 33KVA high voltage line that fell, fresh indications have emerged to the effect that about 29 indigenes of Akwa Ibom State died in the process.

Although the identity of the persons were not immediately made available to the press, some unconfirmed sources in the slaughter area told our Correspondent that before the dead bodies were removed last Saturday, they know that over 30 Akwa Ibom women operates local eatery, liquor spots and other businesses in the area.

One of the survivors, Miss Peace Joseph from the Land of Promise, a Secretary and computer operator was one lucky few that walked through the valley of the shadow of death and came out strong.

Peace also a part-time student of Akwa Ibom State Polytechnic revealed that her faith in God brought her out of the cold hands of death.

The young lady, who confessed that she passed out for several hours, said it was like a terrible nightmare. "We were all inside the bus when suddenly we heard a sound like a heavy rain. I was going for my lectures, because I run a part-time programme in Akwa Ibom State polytechnic. It was just like a dream to me, but by the time I open my eyes, I began to ask myself what brought me here?

The only thing I kept saying was "in Jesus name I will not die. I was repeating the words in my mind until I found myself here. I never knew", the young woman said. The President Akwa Ibom Community in Rivers State, Mr. Jerry Edemeka, said the incident was an unfortunate one, adding that it is a reflection of the decadence of the society.

"I feel sad about the dead of Nigerians who lost their lives in the electrocution tragedy in the slaughter area of Port Harcourt. I blame the whole thing on PHCN for negligence of duty on their part. PHCN only collect money consumers to reconnect and disconnect light. They hardly do their job", the legal practitioner said in an exclusive interview.

While promising to sympathy visit to the affected persons, he urged Rivers State Government to up to their promise to support the survivors. He said government should empathy and sympathy to the affected persons. He also called on PHCN to pay appropriate compensation to the victims.

By Edwin Atteh

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