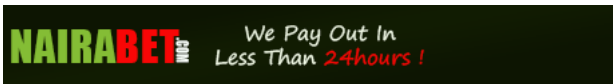
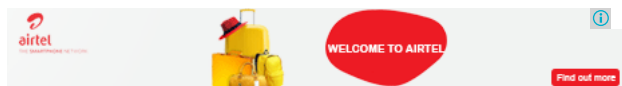


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## Pensioner collapses, dies during screening in Edo (/pensioner-collapses-dies-during-screening-in-edo)

February 23, 2016

Written by: Banji Aluko -Benin City



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Tragedy struck at the council secretariat of Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State as a pensioner identified as Sunday Oboite collapsed and died while waiting for his turn during a screening exercise.

The screening exercise for the pensioners was ordered by the council as one of the conditions for the payment of their 10-month-old pension arrears.

The late Oboite was said to have complained of hunger during the screening exercise and a colleague had reportedly bought him Viju milk and water to quench his hunger.

Secretary of Oredo Pensioners Association, James Erhunmense, said Oboite came to the screening venue alone and complained of not having any money to buy food and drugs.

Checks showed that the pensioners had presented themselves for screening at the council secretariat at about 8:00a.m. but were later informed to move to Urhokpota Hall, a distance of about 100 meters.

The late pensioner was said to have informed his colleagues that he could not make the journey and chose to wait at the reception of the secretariat, where he later slumped and died at about 1:20 p.m.

According to another pensioner, who simply called himself James, "Sunday (the deceased) said he had no money to buy food and medicine. For 10 months now we have not been paid. Many others have died without collecting their pension benefits."

His death caused panic among the council workers and passers by as people gathered to catch a glimpse of his corpse.

The deceased's age was put at 75 and was said to have worked and retired in the Works Department of the council.

The incident, however, did not stop the screening as about five persons had already been screened at about 4:00p.m.  
The pensioners said the computers broke down and that the officials brought chairs for them to sit after the death of their colleague.

Chairman of the council, Mrs. Sweet Ikpomwosa, could not be reached for comments as she was said not to be in the office.

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