

Eko Akete

Seeking God in filth

WHEN the Lagos State government set aside Thursday of every week as sanitation day — an exercise which aims to encourage business owners within the metropolis to tidy their environment — they did not know that they had just opened an avenue for mobile preachers to set up churches in front of locked shops.

On Thursday, *Eko Akete* visited some parts of Lagos only to be confronted by mobile churches which had sprung up in front of many of the locked shops.

Every Thursday in a corner between Ilo and Ipodo streets in Ikeja, a mobile church beckons at traders and other shop owners who are waiting impatiently for the 10 o'clock deadline to begin the day's trading.

The pastor of the mobile church begins his service with a worship session complete with all the instruments you would find in a regular church. A praise session soon follows and the traders and shop owners sing praises to God, surrounded by filth.

The mobile churches are always not showing any concern for the main objective of the forced closure, with an offering bag always being passed around and the Grace said at five minutes to the deadline.

The practice is not peculiar to Ikeja as *Eko Akete* found out. It is obtainable in Alaba and some other major markets.

'We kill here'

SOME concerned Lagosians have appealed to *Eko Akete* to beg the Ministry of Health to investigate a hospital located at Ojodu Berger.

According to gist flying around, the hospital is highly notorious for negligence which has led to the loss of many lives.

Speaking with *Eko Akete*, a man claimed that he lost his wife and child to the usual negligence of the hospital personnel. "She gave birth successfully, but due to the negligence of the hospital, she died like a chicken. My baby also died there," he claimed.

Eko Akete also gathered that through a medical laboratory official that a doctor who was recently sacked from another hospital for giving an elderly patient an overdose of drugs which led to her untimely demise has been employed by this hospital.

"Lagos State should come to the masses' rescue. The rate at which people are dying in this place is alarming," he said, adding that many people in the area patronise the hospital because their services are quite cheap when compared to other standard hospitals.