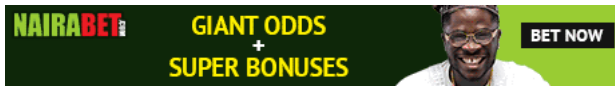


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Flood kills 60-year-old widower in Edo (/flood-kills-60-year-old-widower-in-edo)

June 28, 2016

Written by: Banji Aluko - Benin City

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A 60-year-old widower and Okada rider, Osarobo Obayuwana, has been killed by flood that has ravaged Evbotubu community in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State.

According to family members, the late Obayuwana, whose wife died about two years ago, slipped into gully dug by the sides of the Evbotubu road while returning to his apartment at 13, First Power Line Street, Evbotubu, after buying an item at a location adjacent his house.

They added that the late Obayuwana, who left behind an aged mother, shouted for help when he slipped into the gully but help did not come his way early enough as only his dead body was recovered at an end of the gully.

The only child of the late Obayuwana, 20-year-old Iziegbe Obayuwana, said she is now an orphan and that her late father was her only benefactor looking after her.

Residents of the area described the incident, which occurred on Thursday afternoon, as one too many, adding that the gully has consistently claimed lives since it was dug by the Edo State government as part of a water project targeted at deflooding Benin City.

They regretted that the drainage that has turned to gully has not served the purpose it was created for, appealing to the Edo State government to expedite action in completing it.

They also called on the state government to pay compensation to the family of the late Obayuwana.

One of them, Osas Negbebor, said, "This thing has killed so many lives. Anytime we have downpour here, it is always filled up and sometimes water covers the wooden bridge such that many people have slipped into the gully.

Only yesterday, I saved a student who nearly slipped into the gully. It is like that all over here. We do not want a repeat of that. We are appealing to the Edo State government to do something about the thing so that more lives are not lost."

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