

Five die, seven injured as mine collapses in Plateau

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FIVE local miners were over the weekend killed while seven others sustained injuries after a mining pit collapsed on them at Rukku community in Barakin-Ladi Local Government Area of Plateau State.

A source close to the community said the incident occurred on Saturday when some local artisanal miners went to the site to mine solid minerals.

It was gathered that the miners were extracting minerals deposited some meters beneath the earth's surface

when the pit suddenly collapsed on them.

The source added that other miners at the site had to abandon their work to rescue those trapped.

Nigerian Tribune learnt that the five who died were deep inside the pit and could not be rescued, while the remain-

ing seven at the surface were brought out alive but with various degrees of injury.

A miner who was part of the rescue team said the incident occurred at about 7:00p.m , adding that efforts to rescue those trapped in the deepest part of the pit failed.

He said the rescue team

later gave up hope of rescuing them when they could not get to the point where they were trapped under the ground.

When contacted, the chairman of Barakin-Ladi Local Government Area, Honourable Jok Alamba, confirmed the incident.

The council boss, who ex-

pressed shock over the development, said the youth died in the process of trying to eke out a living in an illegal way.

Alamba implored youths in the council area to embrace legitimate means of making their living and desist from illegal businesses that can bring about death or injuries.