

# One dies, eight injured as building, hotel collapse in Lagos, Osun

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ONE person was feared killed and eight others injured as two buildings collapsed in Lagos and Osun states.

Our correspondents gathered that the decking of a room in a storey building at 34, Akewusola Street, Oworonshoki, Lagos, collapsed in the morning of Tuesday, injuring three women, who were subsequently treated and discharged.

In the Osun State incident, lodgers and workers of Hilltop Hotel, Ofatedo, a suburb of Osogbo, fled in the early hours of Tuesday when a wing of the hotel collapsed, killing one person and injuring five others.

A source told our correspondent that lodgers and workers of the hotel fled as soon as the dead victim was

evacuated in fear that they might be arrested and detained by the police during their investigation.

The spokesman of the Lagos State Police Command, Mr. Frank Mba, confirmed the Oworonshoki incident.

He added that policemen were quickly mobilised to the site and cordon off the building.

It was gathered that officials of the Lagos State Physical Planning and Development

Authority had a difficult time convincing the residents of the building to conduct a structural integrity test on the building.

Sitting on three plots of land, the popular one-storey hotel, along the Ede-Ofatedo road, was being expanded with the construction of a bar and restaurant in addition to the main building when the incident occurred.

Fire fighters, policemen and officials of the Nigerians Security and Civil Defence

Corps were seen evacuating the dead and the injured.

The new storey building, which was tiled and roofed, has been in use several weeks ago but it suddenly collapsed on Tuesday when the bamboos which supported the decking was being removed by workers.

There were no lodgers and workers of the hotel when our correspondent visited just as some people living in the neighbourhood described the death of the worker as pathetic.

## Lawmakers want Yar'Adua to send soldiers

**Emmanuel Obe, Awka**

THE Anambra State House of Assembly on Tuesday called on President Umaru Yar'Adua to deploy troops in the state to checkmate the recent upsurge in armed robbery and kidnapping.

After debating on a motion sponsored by the 29 members, the House resolved that the security situation in the state had become so bad and likened it to the Niger Delta.

The Commissioner for Information, Mr. Maja Ume, however, said the state government would need to study the resolution before reacting to it.

The House stopped short of calling for a state of emergency and passing a vote of no confidence on the All Progressives Grand Alliance government of Mr. Peter Obi.

It said that since the state government and the security agencies on the ground were

incapable of handling the situation.

The resolution reads in part, "The President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Alhaji Umaru Yar'Adua, should be urged to consider Anambra State a high profile crime state.

"The President should be urged to set up a joint task force of the Army, police and state security services similar to what obtains in the Niger Delta to bring the security