

# Man dies clearing abandoned well in Lagos

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## Samson Folarin

A 52-year-old man, Ishaku Lawal, has been killed while clearing an abandoned well on Liasu Road, in the Idimu area of Lagos State.

*PUNCH Metro* learnt that Lawal was contracted on Saturday by the residents to clear the well in order to collect rain water.

However, the victim was said to have hit his head against an object in the well and died instantly.

Officials of the Lagos State Fire Service, who were invited to the scene, reportedly removed the corpse.

The Director of the Lagos State Fire Service, Rasak Fadipe, said preliminary investigation showed that the well had been abandoned for a long time.

He said, "The people in the house, however, thought they could clean it up to collect rain water.

"Lawal, a Hausa man, was given the job, but he was midway into the well when he hit his head against an object.

"Our officers from the Ikotun station were called to the scene and they recovered him dead. The body was handed over to policemen from the Ikotun division."

Fadipe lamented the high rate of death associated with well digging in the state, urging residents to seek the support of the government anytime they wanted to work on their wells.

He said the state had made provision for rescue ropes and other safety apparatus to safeguard the lives of diggers.

"The government is spending a lot of money to forestall loss of lives; people need to cooperate by applying for the equipment," he added.