Sundayspecial

How Lagos hotel fence killed two siblings during rainfall

VICTOR AYENI

WO siblings, Gbolahan and Olayinka Atolagbe, were killed on Saturday when a fence collapsed on their house in the Ikorodu area of Lagos State.

Sunday PUNCH gathered that the incident occurred on Alao Street, Ishawo, during a downpour.

The bodies of the two children were recovered after hours of being trapped amidst rescue efforts by residents.

The father of the deceased children, Ahmed Atolagbe, in an interview with journalists, said the collapsed fence had been weakened by rainwater from the neighbouring hotel building.

He said, "I was not at home when it happened because I left the house very early in the morning to work. As I was getting to the shop, they called me on my phone that something was going on in our house. I was shocked because everything was fine when I left for work.

"I rushed back home and they told me that the fence of the hotel nearby collapsed on our house. The fence was soaked in the rainwater coming from the hotel compound, which weakened the foundation of the fence.

"That was what made that fence collapse on our house and kill my two children, Gbolahan and Olayinka. Their Muslim names are Abdulwahab and Rokeeb. We have been living in the house for 10 years now."

A resident had made a distress call in a video seen by

Sunday PUNCH, urging emergency rescue operatives to come to the community.

The Coordinator of the National Emergency Management Agency, Lagos State, Mr Ibrahim Farinloye, confirmed the incident.

He said, "This is to confirm the recovery of two children that were trapped in a partial building collapse which occurred around 11.30am at 25, Ajao Street, CWC, Olainukan Bus Stop, Ishawo, Ikorodu.

"The children, Rokeeb Atolagbe, nine; and Mujeeb

Atolagbe, seven; were trapped when a fence from the neighbouring house fell on their building during the downpour.

"It was very unfortunate that the distress calls were not properly channelled to those whose responsibility was to save the lives of the children at the right time.

"The Lagos State Building Control Agency is presently on the ground to assess the situation. May God forgive the deceased and console their parents."

Six die after consuming alcohol to settle fight

DAUD OLATUNJI

IX persons have reportedly died after taking alcohol allegedly served by their friend in Ogbogbo in the liebu-North East area of Ogun State.

Our correspondent gathered that the incident occurred on Tuesday at a joint where the seven friends converged for merry-making.

A source told our correspondent that all the six persons who drank the alcohol died, except the seventh person, who reportedly brought the drink from home.

The deceased persons and the suspect had before the incident engaged in a hot argument, which was later settled.

The source claimed that the suspect then offered to donate a bottle of alcohol as part of reconciliation moves.

The man reportedly went home and brought the drink, which was taken by all the six friends, except him.

Sunday PUNCH gathered that a few hours after they departed to their various destinations, news filtered in that two of the friends had died, while four others were hospitalised.

The source said the other four persons died the following day, while the suspect fled the town.

"Six people have been announced dead as of the time of speaking to you. The whereabouts of the man who brought the alcohol is yet to be known," he added.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Omolola Odutola, confirmed the incident.

Odutola, however, kept mum on the number of affected persons.

She said, "I just confirmed something like that occurred but the families said they were not pressing charges and preferred to bury their dead."

Electrician allegedly commits suicide after wife's death

DANIEL AYANTOYE

N electrician, identified simply as Tajudeen, has reportedly killed himself at Ijebu Ode in Ogun State.

Sunday PUNCH learnt that Tajudeen hanged himself in his room at Sabo community on Friday.

While the reason for the act remains unknown, a Facebook platform, Ijebu Rewa, which posted the

photograph of the deceased, said he lost his wife two years ago.

It stated, "The electrician lost his wife about two years ago. And his children are out of town. The cause of his death is yet to be identified at the time of filing this report. Investigation has started to know the reasons for such deadly actions."

The Ogun State Police Public Relations Officer, Omolola Odutola, declined response to the incident.