

# UPDATED: Three killed, seven injured in Lagos mosque collapse

26th May 2024

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Scene of the Lagos mosque collapse

No fewer than three persons, including an 11-year-old girl, on Sunday, lost their lives when a mosque that was hit by an excavator collapsed in the Papa Ajao area of Lagos State.

The Permanent Secretary, Lagos State Emergency Management Agency, Olufemi Oke-Osanyintolu, while confirming the development in a statement, said seven people sustained varying degrees of injury.

He added that the building of the mosque had been levelled to ground zero.

The statement read, “Final report on the building collapse on Yusuf Street, Papa Ajao. Following an extensive exercise, the final casualty report on the above incident is that three fatalities and seven casualties varying in severity were recorded.

“The affected buildings have been levelled to ground zero. Responders at the scene of the incident include the agency’s response team led by the PS, LRU Fire unit, Lagos State Fire and Rescue Service, LASBCA, NEMA, Nigeria Police, LNSC, FRSC and LASAMBUS.”

The Lagos State Commissioner for Information and Strategy, Gbenga Omotoso, in a post on X.com, said 10 people were believed to have been trapped when the building caved in following the collision.

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He, however, noted that a corpse had been retrieved from the rubble of the collapsed structure, adding that the rescued victims received pre-hospital care and one of them with severe injuries was transferred to the hospital for treatment.

Omotoso's post read in part, "Building collapse at Papa Ajao. A storey building has collapsed on Yusuf Street, Papa Ajao, Lagos. An excavator clearing a road hit a storey building, a mosque, which collapsed.

"Four injured persons were rushed to hospital; 10 people were believed to have been trapped in the rubble. Rescuers are on the site. One body was retrieved; the others received pre-hospital care. One with serious injuries was transferred to hospital. All Lagos State emergency agencies are at the scene."

Meanwhile, the state Police Public Relations Officer, Benjamin Hundeyin, in his reaction to the tragedy, said the corpse recovered at the scene was that of an 11-year-old girl, adding that the rescue operation was ongoing.

He said, "The rescue operation is ongoing but as I speak with you, the corpse of an 11-year-old girl has been recovered. The operation is still ongoing."