



## Bricklayers die in well

Two bricklayers have drowned in a 40 feet well in Akure, the Ondo State capital, while trying to remove a fetcher.

This came barely two days after two students of the Federal University of Technology, Akure (FUTA), reportedly drowned in the institution's pond while taking selfie.

Although the identities of the bricklayers have not been ascertained as the time of filing this report, witnesses said the incident occurred at Omu community on old Ondo Road at the weekend.

Witnesses said one of the bricklayers went to fetch water after resuming for work at a construction site in the area.

According to one of the witnesses, the fetcher fell in the well. After waiting endlessly for the man to bring water to mix sand and cement, the second bricklayer went in search of him. However, on getting to the well, he reportedly discovered that the bucket was half full with water but his coworker was missing.

He was said to have peeped inside the well and discovered that his assistant was struggling and shouting for help.

Sources in the community said the man jumped inside the well with the hope of rescuing his colleague but both of them died in the process.

Another bricklayer working with them raised the alarm.

But instead of racing to the scene to help, other bricklayers working in the area fled the vicinity for fear of indiscriminate arrest by the police.

By the time officials of the State Fire Service arrived the scene, the two bricklayers had given up the ghost.

Their bodies were later pulled out by the officials of the Fire Service and deposited at the State Specialist Hospital.

Officials of the State Fire Service were said to have attributed to a poisonous gas inside the well which the men inhaled.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Mr. Femi Joseph, confirmed the incident, which he described as avoided.

Joseph appealed to the people to always avoid risk that would end up terminating their lives abruptly.

According to him, the deceased ought to have employed other means of retrieving the fetcher instead of jumping inside the well.

Joseph said the bodies were awaiting autopsy after which they would be released to their families for burial.

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