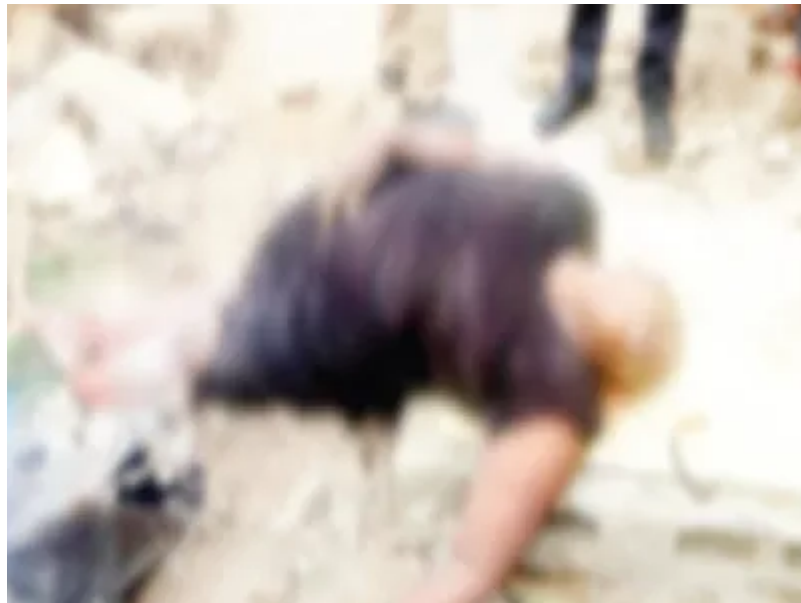


METRO AND CRIME

Building collapses on mother of five while hawking



Published 9 hours ago on April 10, 2018

By **Emmanuel Ifeanyi** 

A mother of five, Mrs. Precious Chizoba Okeke, yesterday died in Aba, Abia State, after a three-storey building collapsed on her just as she was hawking her wares. The building was undergoing demolition, crashed on Okeke and dismembered her body. She died i

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The brother of the deceased, who introduced himself as Nonso, said that he and other members were still in shock. He said: “When I got to the scene, I was shocked to the point that I began to ask people if Boko Haram had entered Aba to bomb us all.

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It was a horrible sight to behold. It was when I got close that I saw my sister’s body. Her second leg was missing and from what I saw there, the building was being demolished by the orders of the state government.

“I learnt that the bulldozer was working on a nearby building and that the vibrations caused the building to collapse on my sister, just as she was hawking, to raise money to take care of her children.

I heard she even ran, attempting to escape, but the building still crashed on her. She was selling zobo and other drinks. The children also rushed to the scene, but were taken as sympathisers. As I’m speaking with you, my old mother is still expecting her back in her village.

She promised to visit her soon. My father, who got the news of the incident, had already been hospitalised as a result of the shock. Our mother doesn’t even know yet.” The man, Okeke, through the hawking, was not only caring for her children, but also for him, ever since he lost his job.



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He explained that Okeke’s husband was devastated. He added: “We beg the government, our governor, Dr. Okezie Ikpeazu, to save her children by extending a hand of help to them. We don’t blame the government, but the children now need help.” After the incident, the



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an illegal structure on Port Harcourt Road, Aba, which is currently under reconstruct Setraco- Hartland Construction Company. “Initial reports available to us indicate the course of removing illegal attachments to a property by its owners, the building collapse unfortunately killed a non-resident engaged in petty trading activity around the project.”

“Our hearts are with the family and friends of the deceased, even as we continue efforts to trace her next of kin. While we appreciate the cooperation and exemplary support of residents and landlords’ association of Port Harcourt Road, to ensure that we quickly new six-lane road from the long abandoned but critically important Port Harcourt Road it is important to call on residents and landlords to abide by our safety rules and protocols including complete evacuation of people living in or doing business around a marked area before commencing demolition of extensions and illegal structures.”

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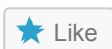
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