

Two die inside septic tank in Abia



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Two sewage disposal workers have been found dead inside a soak away pit at Ube area of Azikiwe Road, Aba, Abia State. The incident occurred at No 176, Azikiwe Road, Aba, about noon on Saturday.

The incident drew sympathisers from different parts of the city. The victims were identified simply as Chimamkpa and Orji, working with Bene Water System and Refuse Disposal Limited.

The victims died when they went to evacuate sewage. Although cause of death was not known yet, there were speculations that they might have died after inhaling sewage disposal chemical. According to a witness, who gave his name as Nelson, the incident occurred so suddenly that no one could say what killed the men. He said: "I saw the two men when they opened the soak away outside.

I went about my own business. When I came out at first, they were through and I saw their ladder with one of them outside looking ready to leave. I forgot something and came back, and then I heard people shouting and crying.

Someone brought a rope and went inside to bring out their corpses. "The other one outside waited for his colleague who went inside to clean up the soak away after their usual evacuation and when he didn't see him, he decided to check him out and died there as well.

The police came and they were moved out. Everything happened too suddenly." Another witness, Solomon Okolo, said: "The death of the two men was very strange.

I don't know what killed them, but I know that there was a certain chemical they usually pour inside any pit they came to evacuate. Maybe it was that chemical that killed them because aside that, their death must be spiritual because it is very strange to me."

All effort made to reach the Manager of Bene Water System and Refuse Disposal Limited, Mr. Amaobi, proved abortive as most of the workers approached by our reporter refused to speak and denied having his mobile line.

Also, a mobile line put out for inquiries when called a man, who picked the call, said he was not in charge. He added that he couldn't speak on the issue. When contacted, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Geoffrey Ogbonna, said he was not aware of such an incident.