

Seven killed as building collapses in Lagos

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LAGOS—NO fewer than seven persons were feared dead last night after a four-storey building caved in at Okepopo street in Adeniji-Adele area of Lagos Island. The incident which took place around 5pm shocked both the residents and neighbours who claimed there were no earlier signs of the tragedy.

Eyewitness account said the building suddenly collapsed trapping almost all the tenants.

Early arrivals to the scene were reportedly said to have rushed about seven dead bodies and scores of others who were seriously wounded and unconscious to the General Hospital.

Most of the victims so far were those occupying the last floor of the building while efforts are being made to save others trapped in the remaining floors including the ground floor.

Vanguard gathered that a team of policemen and fire service men including some members of the Red Cross arrived the scene and were helping in evacuating both the dead and the wounded. One of the residents of the area told *Vanguard* that some officials of the State Government had earlier inspected the building and advised all the occupants to quit but they refused. As at 9pm yesterday, both the police, Red Cross, fire service personnel and sympathizers were still making frantic efforts to save the lives of those still trapped inside the rubble of the collapsed building.

Lagos State Police deputy spokesman, Mr. Olumide Jimoh when contacted told *Vanguard* that after the building collapsed, six persons were rushed to the hospital and that three of them were unconscious. He assured that more policemen have been posted to the scene to ensure that there were no looting of people's property.