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2 feared dead in Ibadan building collapse

Written by Ola Ajayi
Friday, 02 January 2009

THE dream of some occupants of a two-storey building to enter the new year was short-lived yesterday as the building which is under construction at the J.Allen area of Ibadan collapsed killing two people and injuring many others.

The building, owned by the Nigerian Baptist Convention, Oke-Bola, was said to have collapsed around 6p.m, trapping four other construction workers at the site.

It was learnt that a man, identified as "Baba Iwo" and another female worker were, however, lucky as they were rescued by hundreds of sympathisers at the scene.

Among those on the rescue mission were men from the Oyo State Fire Service, police and the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps.

Two of the workers were not lucky as they were buried by rubble and had their bodies crushed by iron and concrete. Those rescued were taken to a nearby private hospital.

Though reasons that led to the collapse of the building were not immediately known, it was gathered that the new building under construction was joined with an old one. But, the new building gave way and detached from the old one resulting in a heavy bang.

It was further gathered that the building collapsed at a time construction workers were rounding off the decking.

A witness narrated that the loud bang which gave a deafening noise went down by 6.10 p.m.

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