

2 killed, property destroyed as flood wreaks havoc in Osogbo

By Shina Abubakar

O**SOGBO**—Three persons were reported dead and property worth millions of naira destroyed in a five-hour downpour in Osogbo, Osun State capital, Tuesday.

The remains of a motorcyclist swept away by the flood at Oke-Oniti area of the state capital were recovered yesterday.

Another yet-to-be identified woman was reportedly swept away by the flood around Ijetu stream along the Ilesa garage and an elderly person was said to have been swept away while trying to cross Awesin stream to his house in Erin-Osun.

According to Ilurin of Erin Osun, Chief Olawuyi Adeleke, who confirmed the incident, the man was returning home when he fell into the flooded river.

A resident at Oke-Oniti, Tunde Aremu, said the motorcyclist defied warning, drove through the flood and was swept into the stream by the water current.

Also, Public Relations Officer, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, Adigun Daniel, while confirming the death of the unknown man at Ijetu stream,

said: "A yet-to-be identified corpse was recovered today (yesterday) inside the stream and the body deposited at the hospital morgue. No one has claimed the body yet."

The flood also affected a portion of the Government House perimeter fence, pulling down about 25-metre stretch while shop owners lost wares worth millions of naira.

Traders at the popular Alekuwodo market were also seen lamenting as the flood destroyed food items and other wares in their shops while traders at Rasco area were seen picking clothing materials from the stream to be washed and dried.

Meanwhile, Osun State Government in a statement by the Commissioner for Information and Civic Orientation, Funke Egbemode, urged residents to remain calm as the government is already assessing the impact of the disaster.

"Government has activated its emergency response system, comprising stakeholders in disaster management, which include environmental management officers, health workers and security agencies, to respond efficiently to the incident where necessary," she said.