

Many feared killed in Oyo gas explosion

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File photo of an explosion scene.

By Wale Akinselure

Many people were feared dead on Friday night after a gas explosion rocked the Bioku-Alaadun area of Ona Ara Local Government, Ibadan, Oyo State.

An eyewitness who spoke with *Saturday PUNCH* said he saw mangled bodies at the scene.

The explosion occurred while a tanker was discharging gas into a retail outlet.

The casualties were said to include the owner of the gas shop and others who were nearby at the time of the incident.

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The General Manager, Oyo State Fire Services Agency, Yemi Akinyinka, confirmed the incident in a telephone interview with our correspondent, saying operatives were already on the ground working to contain the situation.

He said there were casualties but noted that full details were still being compiled.

Akinyinka added, “Our men are there; they are still working. Yes, the incident happened. They were discharging gas and there was an explosion. Information on the casualties is still being gathered.”