

# 73-year-old man killed in Kwara bush burning

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| Johnson Idowu and Dare Akogun

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The Kwara State Fire Service has recovered the body of a 73-year-old man, identified as Pastor Awolola, who was suspected to have been burnt to death while carrying out a bush-burning exercise on his parcel of land in Ilorin.

The spokesperson for the service, Hakeem Adekunle, disclosed this in a statement on Monday.

Adekunle said the agency received a distress alert over a fire incident at Cemetery Road, Irewolede, on Monday, and upon arrival, it was discovered that the deceased had reportedly set fire to weeds on his fenced parcel of land.

He added that investigations revealed the fire spread rapidly within the confined area, and while Awolola attempted to escape through the fence, he was allegedly trapped by the advancing flames.

He said, “Findings revealed that the undergrowth fire spread rapidly and engulfed the only exit from the premises. In an attempt to escape, the victim tried to scale the fence; however, the fire had already advanced to that point, resulting in his death.

“Upon arrival, firefighters promptly engaged and successfully extinguished the fire, preventing further spread to adjoining properties.