

2 die in Nasarawa school fire

From Hir Joseph, Jos

Two students were burnt to death while many others were injured in a fire disaster which razed down a dormitory at the Baptist High School in Marke, Kokona Local Government Area of Nasarawa State. One of the deceased students was barely four days old at the college, *Daily Trust* gathered.

The disaster struck in the early hours of Thursday, according to the management

of the school. Police in the state said the cause of the fire was still unknown.

The victims Tswabmam Luka, a new entrant, was in Junior Secondary School (JSS) II, while Joseph Idris, was a Senior Secondary School II student.

"Their mates were lucky to have survived the fire, with varying degrees of injuries,"

Deacon Jacob Oya, chairman of the school governing board, said.

He said officials got to the scene of the fire disaster on time, but were unable to save

the trapped students, whose charred remains were found in two corners of the dormitory after the fire had been put out.

He said the injured students were rushed to Keffi, where they were still receiving treatment at the Federal Medical Centre (FMC.)

Mr. Wanche Magani, chairman of the Parents/Teachers Association of the school told newsmen that the incident might have been caused by an electrical fault, but added that investigation was

ongoing to ascertain the actual cause.

The school management and the association condoled with families of the deceased.

Mr. Luka Rimande, father of the junior student who died in the inferno, recalled that he took his two children to the school for admission only a few days back, only to be called for information about the incident.

The state police spokesman, DSP Umar Ismaila, confirmed the incident, adding that investigation has commenced.

