

■ A section of representative of various security agencies at 1st Phase of Kano Security Awareness Seminar held at Karaye town in Karaye Emirate.

Photo **Yusha'u A. Ibrahim**

How 3 die in a well in Jigawa village

From Aliyu M. Hamagam, Dutse

Basirka, a village in Gwaram Local Government Area of Jigawa state was thrown into pandemonium following the death of three persons in a well.

The deceased were said to have offered to help in desilting a local well in the area through the use of a fabricated machine.

Our reporter gathered that the decision for desilting the well was reached after it was observed that the water it supplies had gone bad and muddy from sand deposits.

The deceased, who were between the ages of 27 and 35 met their untimely death at same time after each made effort to rescue the other.

Chronicle gathered that late

Ibrahim Jibrin, was the first to die after he went into the well to check why the generator they put inside the well to help them drain the water went off.

When late Jibrin, could not come out and that there was no response from him after several inquiries by his colleagues that were outside, the second person, Danliti Mohammed decided to go into the well and check

what went wrong.

When the second person went in, at the first instance, his movement was being heard loud and clear but after a while he too went silent as he was not responding to series of calls put to him by others.

Despite the mysterious silence

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of the duo, the third person, Idi Mohammed also volunteered to go in and check of what befell the other two.

When he found them dead, he made a frantic effort to bring their lifeless bodies out but the three of them slumped back even after reaching about the surface opening of the well.

The mystery surrounding their sudden silence in the well within a short period of time did not deter the fourth Samaritan, whose name is not available at the time of filling this report to go for the rescue mission.

The lifeless bodies of the two that went in sequentially was brought out while the third person was saved while gasping for breath.

Two of the victims were confirmed dead on arrival at Basirka Primary Healthcare and the third person died later while receiving treatment.

Speaking to Chronicle, a brother to one of the deceased, who spoke on behalf of all the deceased, Musbau Basirka said the deceased died while draining waste water from a well which was powered by a borehole machine.

He said the deceased were not professional in desilting of well,

they only volunteered to assist the community to get water for their domestic use.

"It is unfortunate the deceased carried out the desilting work with some level of ignorance. The problem started when they took a generating set inside the well and on ignite it with a view to drain the dirty water. It is in the process of draining the water that the generator fume filled up the well, thereby making impossible for the people inside the well to have oxygen to inhale properly. And the same lack of oxygen must have been the reason why the generator went off.

"The deceased went into the well immediately after the generator went off with a view to restart it without waiting for the fume to clear out from the well. The deceased, who went into the well simultaneously must have died in sequence as a result of suffocation as there was no oxygen," he said.

Confirming the incident, the Public Relations Officer of Jigawa State Police Command, SP Abdul Jinjiri said three persons died on the spot

Jinjiri said the well belongs to a member of Jigawa state House of Assembly member representing Fagam

constituency, Alhaji Shu'aibu Inuwa.

He said one Jibrin Babangida of Kofar Fada in Basirka village reported to the police that his son, Ibrahim Jibrin, age 27, fell into a well.

"We mobilized our men to the scene, removed the dead bodies and the two survivors who attempted to rescue the deceased Danliti Mohammed, 35, and Idi Mohammed, 35," he said.



■ Alh. Muhammad Badaru Abubakar Jigawa State Governor