

Journalist loses daughter, grandson in Plateau fire

From Yusufu Aminu
Idegu, Jos

2

A journalist working with the University of Jos Ice FM in Plateau State, Juliana Olajide, has lost her 17-year-old daughter and a grandson in a fire that razed the family's apartment.

Daily Trust learned that the cause of the fire was yet to be ascertained, but the family suspected an electrical surge.

The fire incident also left Mrs Olajide and her husband with burns while they were battling to rescue their children from the flame.

"All I could remember was that I was forced to wake up at a quarter to 12 midnight to realize that the whole apartment was covered with thick smoke.

"I rushed out to my children's room but I could not access their room because our sitting room was already engulfed in flames. I ran to my husband's room. My husband had to walk through the fire to alert

neighbours to help us. We had to break louvers to access our children to rescue them from the fire," Mrs Olajide, who was revived at JUTH, told our correspondent.

Daily Trust learned that it was neighbours who came to the family's rescue and rushed them to the hospital.

"I lost my 17-year-old daughter and my two-year-old grandson; my husband is in another ward battling for his life also," she added.

It was learned that the twins of the family, Rhema and Israel were responding to treatment at the hospital.

When *Daily Trust* visited Ward 7, the husband, Isaac Olajide, who sustained burns on his face and hands, could hardly talk.

The Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Plateau State chapter appealed to individuals, governments, and corporate organisations to come to the aid of the family.