

# Ex-Borno cooperative society boss, wife, 2 others die in fire incident

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**M**allam Garba Bala Abubakar, the former Chief Registrar of the Borno State Cooperatives Society, his wife, and two other family members have died in a fire incident that razed their

residence on Damboa Road, Maiduguri, Borno State.

A family source, who wished to remain anonymous, confirmed that the fire occurred in the early hours of Sunday while the victims were asleep.

The incident reportedly resulted from an electrical surge from a public power source.

Friends and acquaintances have expressed their grief over the loss, with one friend describing the late Mallam Garba as a “very humble” and “down-to-earth” personality who was highly cherished by those who knew him.

The friend, who posted a tribute on Facebook, shared that he had

recently spoken with Mallam Garba about contemporary issues and had planned to visit him in his new house in Maiduguri, not knowing it would be their last conversation.

Mallam Garba retired as the Chief Registrar of Cooperative Societies with the Borno State government and later worked

with a private borehole drilling company. The victims have since been buried in Maiduguri according to Islamic rites.

Efforts to reach the Director of the Borno Fire Service, Umaru Adamu, for further details, were unsuccessful as his phone was switched off when our correspondent called.

## No ransom paid for release of abducted

