

and said I should go away with the money, but God told

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# Three killed, 10 vehicles, six houses razed as fire guts filling stations in Kaduna, Ondo

**THREE** people died Saturday evening and 10 vehicles burnt as a filling station belonging to the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) caught fire in Kaduna State. Witnesses said the fire started around 5:30p.m. and raged for more than three hours.

In a related incident, no fewer than six houses were razed in an inferno that gutted a Mobil petrol station on Saturday night in Igbokoda, headquarters of Ilaje Local Council of Ondo State.

The fire, which began at about 7:30p.m., eyewitnesses said was as a result of a spark, which emanated from a house beside the filling station. Though no life was lost, the absence of a fire service station in the town worsened the situation.

Some residents of Kinkinau GRA in Kaduna, where the fuel station is located, said as the inferno raged, they became apprehensive that it might spread to their shops and homes. Babangida Kinkinau, owner of a nearby

shop, said the incident occurred while a fuel tanker was discharging its content.

"One of the compartments of the tanker was leaking fuel during the process. I rushed to the scene with a bucket to assist while the manager of the fuel station was using rag to block the leakage.

"Unfortunately, the fire was triggered from the fuel that flowed to the main road, which engulfed eight cars and two commercial buses on the queue. The tanker and the fuel station got burnt as well. A girl and two men were

killed instantly. I was lucky to remove my car from inside the fuel station," he said.

Firefighters from the Kaduna State Fire Service and Kaduna Refinery and Petrochemical Company battled hard to extinguish the fire.

According to an eyewitness in Ondo, Prince Ayoola Odidiomo, six houses were razed by the inferno. "It was through the efforts of residents that the fire was put out to stop further damage. We saw the fire burning the

Mobil petrol station, before we could rally support to put it out. The house beside the station went up in flames and began to spread to adjoining buildings. "It is so sad that there is no fire service station here in Igbokoda, the headquarters of Ondo State Oil Producing Area Development Commission (OSOPADEC)," Odidiomo said.

Efforts to speak with the Igbokoda Divisional Police Officer, Mr. Ifeanyi Godswill, proved abortive, as calls placed to his phone were not successful.



The burnt filling station in Kaduna

Hot Lines: 08098051884, 08033254636 and 08034990344

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