

News

Three-year-old Killed, Four Injured In Kerosene Explosion

By Sunday Apah
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TRAGEDY struck in Ughelli on Wednesday, as one person was confirmed dead and four others seriously injured following two separate incidents of kerosene explosion.

Daily Independent gathered that the deceased, a three-year-old child, died two days after he was hospitalised at the Mariere Memorial Central Hospital, Ughelli alongside one of his siblings.

When the our correspondent visited the hospital, the sibling of the deceased was lying critically ill with injuries

all over her body, but a visibly shaken relation declined comments.

Daily Independent however learnt that the incident occurred at their residence in Ig-haghomi Street as their mother was refilling their stove with kerosene.

Narrating her ordeal to newsmen in her hospital bed, a victim in another incident, Mrs. Rita Ugherakpoteni, stated that she was refueling her lantern when the explosion occurred.

Mrs. Ugherakpoteni, whose 12-year-old daughter and six-week-old baby also sustained serious injuries, disclosed that

"our neighbours ran into the house to rescue the children who were lying on the bed that was already engulfed by fire".

While lamenting the non-availability of sufficient fund to take care of hospital bills, Mrs. Ugherakpoteni expressed gratitude to some well-meaning individuals who have contributing to their well being in the hospital.

Mrs. Ughakpoteni, a petty trader, called on the state government and public-spirited individuals to render them financial assistance to enable them pay for the recommended drugs.