

Kerosene explosion kills three-week old baby in Aladja

By Sunday Apah,
Special Correspondent, Ughelli

A **THREE-WEEK-old** baby, who was sleeping on the bed of her mother, was burnt to death by fire generated by adulterated kerosene in Aladja, Udu local government area of Delta State.

The incident happened penultimate week when a lantern, into which the mother was turning kerosene, exploded, setting the little baby's head on fire, while the mother who also received first degree burns, ran

hysterically for her life when the explosion occurred.

Baby and mother were later rushed to several hospitals in Aladja and Warri before finally going to the central hospital where spirited efforts by the doctors and nurses to save the baby's life ended in futility as the baby gave up the ghost in the early hours of the next day.

Narrating his ordeal, the heart broken father of the baby, Julius Kigba, described his daughter's death as a very painful one.

"My baby did not deserve to die. She was practically roasted

to death. I feel terribly cold each time I recall its heart piercing screams while in the hospital. She cried for hours until she became too weak to cry. We did every thing we could to save her life to no avail. It was indeed a painful death, which she did not deserve," Kigba narrated.

Investigation revealed that the kerosene, which caused the accident, were contaminated and according to sources, more of the killer kerosene was still in circulation in the area because of the scarcity of the product lately.