

sector, in line with the agenda of the Governor Ibrahim Gaidam-led administration.

as during the polls, as 70 percent of Nangere people are APC supporters. Specifically, what

This man did not allow himself to be distracted by the prevailing security challenge; instead, the

in holding the election, government is aware of the situation and will soon announce the date.

•Baba

# How siblings choked to death in father's car

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**INHABITANTS** of Super Cinema street, Lafia local government area, and environs were thrown into consternation and shock last Wednesday afternoon when two children from a family that resides there were found dead in their father's car, apparently due to suffocation.

The deceased, Asiya, 4, and Izuddeen, 3, children of Mr. Bashir Muhammad Sarki, were pupils of Ayatu Imman Nursery and Primary School, Sabon Pegi, Lafia Local Government Area of Nasarawa State.

Daily Independent investigations revealed that the tragic incident occurred when parents of the children were mourning the death of their father who passed away the previous Friday. Attention as to the children's whereabouts was therefore blurry as the household hosted sympathizers that trooped in to console them on the death of their father.

An eyewitness, who did not want his name in print, told Daily Independent that the two children on returning from school on the fateful day went out to play and nobody imagined that they would enter inside their father's car that was packed in the compound.



•Asiya and Izuddeen

"Their father who married one wife with eight children of three boys and five girls was sitting down at the frontage of the mosque mourning his late father before he had the shocking death of his two children," the source said.

Further findings by Daily Independent indicated that the children somehow managed to lock themselves inside their father's car where he usually packs it at the front of the house.

Narrating his ordeal to Daily Independent in Lafia, the state capital, the father of the two children Mr. Bashir Muhammad Sarki, who confirmed the incident in an exclusive

interview, revealed that his two children's whereabouts were unknown when members of the family were busy mourning the demise of their father, Mallam Muhammad Sarki Baba.

Sarki, who teaches at JSS Tudun Kwandara area of Lafia East, hometown of Governor Umaru Tanko Al-Makura of Nasarawa State, explained that he had immediately gone to the ward head of the area to report the matter.

According to him, "having searched everywhere to know their whereabouts and all efforts proved abortive, I immediately took the matter to the ward head of the area (name with-



•The car

held) in case anyone comes across them." As at this time, he recounted, even if they were missing he had the confidence that both of the children could talk and would explain where they come from and demand that they be brought home.

"They know their names very well and that of their parents; they always fight over seniority. Sometimes the boy would call the sister with the name of their mother Rabi and the girl would call the their father's name, Mallam Bashir," he stated.

Sarki added that his hopes of seeing them alive again was however dashed when around 8pm a passerby alerted

him that his car which was covered with tarpaulin was not properly locked as a result of light indication.

The aggrieved father further disclosed that as soon he opened the car door, he found the missing children Izuddeen and Hasiya dead due to inability to breath.

There have been similar incidents of children suffocating to death in abandoned and stationed cars in Doma local council and Lafia, among other places in the state.

Few months back in Doma local government area, five children were reported dead as a result of similar incident, while

in Lafia a former education commissioner, Mr Yusuf Loko, under the Governor Aliyu Akwe Doma administration, lost his child.

Efforts to reach the Nasarawa State police commissioner, Mr Shehu Umar, for his comment on the Sarki children's death proved abortive as he did not pick several calls to his mobile phone. However, the State Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) of the command, Mr Cornelius Ocholi, said he was not aware of the incident, claiming it was not reported to the command.

The children were buried last Thursday according to Islamic rite.