

Kerosene Explosion Kills Girl, Destroys Houses

By **Sunday Apah** - June 14, 2018



Ughelli – Residents of Sapele Town, Sapele Local Government Area of Delta state, yesterday, were thrown into mourning mood following a kerosene explosion that killed an eight-year-old girl, identified as Zicora Ighonoja, razed two houses and destroyed property worth millions of naira.

A dependable source who craves anonymity told Daily Independent that late Zicora Ighonoja was a Primary 2 pupil of a Private School in Sapele and was said to be playing with a neighbour's daughter of the same age at their residence, along Oghene Road when the incident occurred.

The source stated further that little Zicora Ighonoja and her friend were playing with kerosene when her friend went inside, brought out a lighter from a spark ignited the house on fire.

According to the source, "It was the screaming of the children that attracted us to the scene, only to find Zicora Ighonoja in a ball of fire. We managed to put out the fire and rushed her to the hospital where she later gave up the ghost".

Also, a 32-year-old kerosene seller, Miss Stella Peter, ignorantly set her building on fire as she tried trying to test the genuineness and quality of the product purchased from an unknown dealer.

Daily Independent gathered that the incident was said to have occurred at about 5 pm along Ofortokun Street, also in Sapele when Peter after receiving the supply of the product in four jerry cans and just because the product has odour and colour that were different from pure kerosene.

Sources said she scooped some quantity of product and ignite a matchstick to ascertain the quality of the liquid allegedly sold to her as DPK or PMS, an exercise that resulted into an explosion that set the house on fire.

Miss Stella Peter's neighbour, simply called Paul claimed to have lost everything in the inferno. Residents of the building and a building adjacent that consists of 13 rooms were unlucky as the

intensity of the fire made it impossible for sympathizers and neighbours to salvage the least of his property as the house went up in flames.

A member of the Delta State Fire Service, who was a member of the rescue team, said, "Though we were contacted the distress call came late but we were able to make three trips to put out the fire," he said.

Comments

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