

Generator Fumes Kill Four Pupils In Bayelsa

By **Igoniko Oduma** - March 19, 2019

Yenagoa – Aghoro community in Ekeremor Local Government Area of Bayelsa State was thrown into mourning at the weekend after three sisters and their cousin were killed in their sleep by generator fumes.

The deceased, all girls, were said to be primary school pupils identified as the children of Demedogha London and Stephen Binasuode.

The fumes were said to have oozed from a generator kept in the balcony of Demedogha's house.

Sympathisers were said to have thronged the compound of Demedogha when news filtered into town that the four children had been killed by generator fumes.

Demedogha, who was saddened by the incident, explained that he kept the generator at the balcony far from the room of the girls but discovered when he woke up at 6a.m. the next day that the generator had shifted close to the door of the girls' room.

He said he found that the floor tiles aided the movement of the generator, crying that the girls were already dead when he rushed to their room.

"The generator was outside but it was on tiles. The generator shifted close to the door. At about 6a.m., I came out to put off the generator and saw that it was close to the door.

"Eventually, when I entered the room I saw that all the children were dead," Demedogha said.

A concerned member of Aghoro community, who gave his name simply as Thompson, described the incident as painful, saying the community would create awareness on the dangers of generator fumes.

But a resident, Victor, said the devastating incident would not have occurred if there had been electricity in the community.

He blamed the Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) for not completing an electrification project it commenced in the area some years ago.

He said: "Shell is doing an electrification project but the work stopped a long time ago. I appeal to Shell to embark on the project so that this community can have light to avoid this kind of incident."

