## Three Siblings Burnt To Death In Anambra As Mother, Father Go On **Valentine Cruise**

By Gloria Anaeze 12:03 am, Tue, 18 February 20

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**ONITSHA** – A clearer picture as to the cause of fire incident at Ugwu Chelekwu Village, Okija, Ihiala Local Government Area of Anambra State, which burnt three siblings beyond recognition on Valentine's Day has begun to emerge, DAILY INDEPENDENT has gathered.

Three kids of the same mother, Chimankpan Aduhuba, 5, Munachimso Aduhuba, 2, and Kamsiyochi Aduhuba, two months old, children of one Mr. Chukwuma Aduhuba, were burnt to ashes following the fire that razed their family house in the early hours of Saturday, February 25.

A 67-year-old woman who preferred anonymity who is a next-door neighbour to the victims disclosed that the incident happened when both parents were away.



The source, who spoke when our correspondent visited the scene of the incident on Monday, said on that fateful day, the father of the children, Chukwuma Aduhuba, who is an entertainer, went for his usual musical business to make money most especially as the day was a Valentine Day.

She said shortly after the man left, the woman was sighted leaving the house with a young man suspected to be her lover.

"I saw when she was moving out with a young man; I asked her jokingly where she was going, and she told me she was going out for Valentine's Day entertainment. I thought she would return early, because she had little children.

"It was in the night when the fire was ragging that I found out she did not return, because the children were crying inside the house; but there was nobody to rescue them; because the doors were locked.

"We could not rescue them. But after police personnel and fire fighters put off the fire, we found that they were trapped close to a power generating set, with a lamp close to them; indicating that they might have carried a lamp looking for their mother in the rooms, before the generator ignited fire from the lamp they were carrying," the woman explained.

Parents of the children were not around when our reporter visited, but family source told DAILY INDEPENDENT that the since the incident, there had been condemnation on the woman's attitude and the husband has asked her to vacate his house.

Haruna Mohammed, Police Public Relations Officer, Anambra State Command, said though the children had been buried, the command would still conduct investigation to uncover real cause of the incident.

Mohammed, who spoke to our correspondent Monday, said the command was not relenting in its efforts to dig deep into the incident, because, according to him, mischief makers might capitalise on the parents' absence to set the children on fire.