

Fire kills family of four

A COUNCILLOR in Gombe State, Alhaji Yakubu Saleh, his wife and two children died on Monday when fire ravaged their home.

An eyewitness, Malam Umar Usman, said neighbours made spirited efforts to rescue the victims, but only succeeded in bringing out Saleh.

He said Saleh later died at Gombe Federal Medical Centre where he was rushed to.

Usman said they found it difficult to gain entry into the house, and forced their way in through the window.

He said the councillor's wife had burns on her legs, while the children, Handicap (6) and Maryam (7 months) had no burns, suggesting that they died of suffocation.

Usman said: "It was pathetic, we found the wife holding her little child tight to herself, with the elder daughter lying on the floor."