

Three die in Taraba market fire

THREE persons were yesterday feared dead in a fire that gutted the Yelwa market in Jalingo, the Taraba State capital.

The traders had hardly closed their shops when a bus driver, who apparently lost control, ran into some jerry cans loaded with petroleum products. There was an explosion, and the market went up in flames, eyewitnesses told *The Nation*.

The driver escaped narrow-

From Fanen Ihyongo,
Jalingo

ly, but a yet-to-be-identified passenger died in the fire.

An Igbo trader, Mr. Chukwudi Aduaka, on sighting the inferno rushed into his shop to rescue his child, but the two died later of severe burns. Over 50 shops were razed.

Our correspondent visited the market and was conducted round the rubble by some of the traders who bemoaned their losses.

Governor Danbaba Suntai, accompanied by the Jalingo council Chairman, Mr. Ali Sani Kona and his Adviser on Security Matters, Mr. Charles Maijankai, visited the market and the mortuary. Suntai also visited the resi-

dence of the late Aduaka to commiserate with his family.

The Emir of Muri, Alhaji Abbas Tafida, accompanied by his officials, also visited the market and prayed Allah to console the victims. "It is the act of Allah," the Emir said.

The chairman of Yelwa market urged the state government to evacuate roadside fuel hawkers.

Yesterday's incident was just one in a series of reckless driving that led to tragedies in Taraba recently. Only the previous day, a water tanker attempting to overtake a vehicle, collided with another vehicle on the Hammaruwa way, the state capital's thoroughfare. Four persons were severely injured.

NOTICE

CHURCH CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

the above named Church and Christian
irs Commission, Abuja for Registration
lied Matters Act, 1990.

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