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One dies, as fire razes two buildings in Lagos

By **Tajudeen Adebajo** | Published 22/02/2010 | **News** | Rating: ★★★★★

THERE was pandemonium in Lagos at the weekend when an 18-year old lady Miss Fausat Ganiyu, lost her life in an inferno that gutted a three-storey building. It also left scores seriously injured.

The unfortunate incident damaged properties worth millions of naira at Ijora, Apapa-Iganmu Local Council Development Area.

The fire that razed down the three-storey building and another bungalow on 6 and 8 Jimoh Adeyemi Street, according to an eye witness, Mr Fatai Sule, started around 11:30 pm on Saturday night.

The deceased, Miss Ganiyu, who was living in the three-storey building was reported to have rescued her three siblings before she was trapped in the inferno.

Efforts by her neighbours to put out the fire could not yield fruitful result until fire fighters came in around 2am.

The father of the deceased Mr Ganiyu described the incident as shocking.

"I was with them till around 10pm. She and her younger ones were eating before I left the house to attend to some matters in the neighbouring streets. Suddenly, some people came to inform me that our house was on fire. Before we could rush back, the fire had taken over the whole house including the next building.

"It is rather unfortunate that I could not do anything to save her. She was burnt beyond recognition," he stated.

The remains of the deceased, he told *The Nation*, had been taken away by the council officials.

Mr Sule told *The Nation* that many of the residents were asleep when the unfortunate incident began.

"We were coming from the shop around 11:30 pm when we saw flames and few seconds later there was a big ball of fire. We quickly shouted *Ina n jo! Ina n jo* meaning fire is burning! fire is burning". Before the residents around the area could respond, the inferno that started from the three-storey building had caught up with a bungalow on number 8 and the next building," he said.

While the House number 8 which belongs to an old woman Alhaja Awawu Oyeyipo was burnt to ashes, that of number 10 on the same street was partially affected.

Scores of those injured *The Nation* learnt have been taken to the hospital.

The Chairman of the council, Dr Samuel Adedayo was among early callers to inspect the wreckage and sympathised with the victims.

Adedayo told *The Nation* that the cause of the incident was due to fuel stored inside the building by some of the occupants.

"The fact that there is an increase in the pump price as a result of fuel scarcity does not mean we should start storing fuel in our homes. Its effect is what we have seen happened. It is really saddening," he said.

An unhappy council boss prayed God to grant the victims of the incident the fortitude to bear the loss.

He called on the members of the public to desist from such an act to avoid a re-occurrence.

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Isaac-Akins Rating: ★★★★★

said this on 22 Feb 2010 5:24:52 PM WAT

the pdp led government should be held responsible for not making pms available at our filling stations.

(Reply to this comment)

Odunuga Babs Rating: ★★★★★

said this on 22 Feb 2010 10:06:55 PM WAT

As a resident of the area but now based in the UK, i sympathise with the families of the deceased (May Allah grant her aljanat) and all those who were injured during the inferno.I urge our amiable LCDA chairman Dr.'JIMSAM' to please sensitise the residents on the dangers of storing fuel in their living rooms.we know the sit uation is bad in terms of its scarcity-no thanks to the FG and PHCN! God help us.

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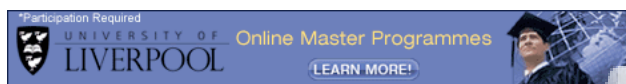
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