

[Home](#) | [News](#) | **Grandma, two kids die in Bauchi fire**

Grandma, two kids die in Bauchi fire

Font size:  [Augustine Tsenzenghul](#)

05/04/2011 00:00:00

A Grandmother, her five-month-old grandson and a seven-year-old girl have died in a fire at VIP Lodge Extension in Gwallameji, Yelwa, Bauchi State.

The fire, witnesses said, started from the woman's room when they were asleep, last weekend.

The girl is believed to be a baby sitter.

Efforts by neighbours and fire fighters to rescue the victims proved abortive.

The 15-room building, which accommodated students of the Federal Polytechnic, Bauchi, was razed.

The caretaker, Mr Adegoke Adeyinka, said the fire was caused by an explosion from a generator in the deceased's room.

He said the owner of the room is Mrs. Doris Patrick, a Higher National Diploma (HND) II student of Science Laboratory Technology (SLT).

He said Doris, who occupied Room Six, travelled to Kogi State to see her husband and left her baby and the girl with her mother.

Most occupants of the house were not at home when the fire occurred.

A neighbour, Esther Eluwa, said the sound of the generator, which was reportedly serviced in the afternoon, was disturbing everyone nearby.

Esther, an HND I student of Office Technology Management, said: "I just came back from a vigil at my church and I wanted to catch some sleep, but the noise did not allow me. So, I complained."

She said the mechanic later packed the engine inside the room.

Miss Damilola Ehindero, Esther's roommate and an HND II student of Hospitality and Tourism Management, said a friend called her and told her that her house was on fire.

She said: "I was told the fire started from mama's room and the little girl, Abike, was burnt beyond recognition, while mama and the baby were rushed to the hospital.

"By the time I came back, everything in my room was burnt to ashes; gone. My roommate was not around too. We couldn't pick anything from the house.

"We lost all our clothes, foodstuff, our secondary school certificates, National Diploma (ND) projects and many valuable documents."

Another occupant, Rotimi Ogundipe, who retained his room at the lodge after graduation, lost his credentials, including the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) discharge certificate.

Adeyinka said efforts to rescue the deceased were futile.

He said: "We tried to break the door but Mama was also struggling to come out. When we eventually succeeded in breaking the door, we saw her on the floor. She had struggled to open the door with the baby in her hand. She became weak and was crying: 'Baby', 'baby', referring to Abike.

"But it was too late. Abike was burnt to ashes. I could only see her head and parts of her body. It was a very sad thing."

The woman and her grandson died the following day at Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University Hospital, Bauchi, the next day.

The Sarkin Sabon Galadima, Hassan Ibrahim, described the incident as unfortunate. He urged the Federal and state governments to provide a fire sub-station for the area "in cases of this nature".

Hassan said: "Only this year alone, I have experienced three fires in my area. We sympathise with the families of the deceased and the students who lost their valuables to the fire."



Comments (0 posted):

total: | displaying:

Post your comment

Disclaimer: Comments made here are the opinions of our readers and not a representation in any way of the views of THE NATION.

Your name:

Your e-mail address:

Your website:

Add your comments:

Submit