

# Rivers fire: Burnt family was given quit notice

By [Bisi Olaniyi](#) 19/03/2012 00:00:00

The family of four that perished during Saturday's petrol tanker fire at Igwuruta, Ikwerre Local Government of Rivers State, was given quit notice by the landlord of its rented apartment, it was learnt yesterday.

This made them relocate to the wife's shop, where they died.

A tanker tumbled at Igwuruta Roundabout, thereby sparking a fire.

Two other persons also died and many others injured.

Over 25 houses and four vehicles were razed.

It was gathered that the head of the family was recently given a quit notice by his landlord, following his inability to pay the rent.

This made the family relocate to the wife's shop near the roundabout.

When the fire started at 4:30 am, the family and other victims were asleep.

They were burnt beyond recognition.

Governor Rotimi Amaechi, who later visited the scene, with his wife, Judith; Deputy Governor Tele Ikuru and the Commissioner for

Health, Dr. Sampson Parker, expressed shock.

Amaechi condoled the victims and their families.

The governor said: "It is so disastrous. I heard an entire family is gone, husband, wife and their children. Now, look at the level of damage.

"We must reduce the level of irresponsibility of some road users.

"I have directed the Commissioner for Special Duties, Emeka Worgu, to identify the victims and let us see how we can assist them."

Amaechi also expressed his government's determination to reduce drivers' recklessness on the roads.

He promised to rebuild the road around the Igwuruta roundabout, which is a federal road, to ensure free flow of traffic and avert future accidents.

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