

One-month old baby burnt to death

A ONE month-old baby girl, Mirabel, was burnt to death at Yelwa-Rafin Zurfib in Bauchi State.

It was gathered the baby's mother left her with her aunty, whose name was given as Suzan, and went to church.

Speaking with our reporter, Edmond Chukwu, the baby's father, said there was a fire at his home and while rescuing his children, the neighbours did not know Mirabel was in

**From Austine
Tsenzughul, Bauchi**

the room

Sources said the fire started at 7:30 p.m. on Monday at Chukwu's bedroom, where three of his children were playing with a candle.

"Suzan was outside cooking, she didn't know the children were playing with a candle. She called one of them and he left the younger ones not knowing he had knocked the

candle from its stand unto the pillow. This caused the fire.

"We rescued three children and nobody told us there was a baby in the room. It was a painful discovery because we would have brought her out alive.

"I brought out two children and one woman assisted to bring the third child out. It was sad to note a baby was inside. We did not know."

Chukwu said his wife had

been inconsolable.

A co-tenant, who pleaded for anonymity, said Mirabel's mother was negligent.

"How could a mother leave a one month-old baby? To me it is gross negligence and she needs to be arrested.

"There is much information we are not getting on this drama. We understand she left the baby with her sister and travelled to look for a job. So there is something fishy."