

Two killed as fire razes 10 houses in Ijora

Posted By: Rukayat Jimoh on: December 12, 2016 In: City Beats No Comments



•Residents searching for their belongings in the rubble... yesterday

Two boys were burnt to death on Saturday night when fire razed 10 houses in Ijora Badia, Lagos.

The fire started around 10pm from a woman's room on Opeloyeru Street, Ijora Badia.

The woman, it was learnt, was cooking in her room .

The boys, one of whom is her four-year-old son and her friend's two-year-old boy, were said to be sleeping

The woman was said to have stepped out to receive a call but the fire had consumed her apartment and another before returning.

It was gathered that the fire razed 10 houses which were all built with wooden planks.

When *The Nation* visited the scene around 6am, all houses were in ashes.

A community leader Mr Isreal Olayinka blamed the woman's carelessness for the incident.

Olayinka said: "It was saddening. The fire shocked us because it was late in the night when many people were already in bed. It started around 10pm from the room of one woman with two children. She was cooking in her room while the two children were sleeping. But she step out of the room to receive a call, on her way back the fire had consumed the room with the two children burnt alive.

"The fire overpowered us because the houses were built with wood. All the 10 houses burnt to ashes and over 200 people were rendered homeless.

"Carelessness is the cause of the fire. People must be very careful as we are also approaching dry season.

"We appeal to government to assist the victims. We made effort to call the fire service but they came late around 2am."

A victim, Adijat, a trader and mother of two, said the fire will bring hardship upon her as she has no family.

“I was sleeping when I heard people shouting, I quickly rushed out of my room. It was like a movie, I thought people were acting film. At a point, I lost my memory and was dump for about five minutes. I could not sleep after the incident; It was yesterday that I know that night is longer that day.

“I just bought new goods for my shop and I collected thrift of N40,000 which were destroyed by the fire . My heart is broken to pieces, I am a young lady with two children, I will suffer because I don't know where to start,” she said.

Mr Abdulllahi Abubakar, a tailor said he lost all his properties to the fire.

He said: “Around 9:30pm, I heard people shouting and weeping. The fire destroy my shop and house, I have lost everything. What a disaster! The fire burnt all my property. I am left with the cloth on me. God knows why it happened to us and I cannot question him, I see it as supremacy of God over man. I struggle to spear my life.”

Mr Toyin Aruna, a driver and father of six children lamented that he would lose his dignity as a man as he has lost means to cater for his family.

“I lost everything I had. I will have to start all over again. Life is not fair with us. I have been weeping like a baby because I have lost my dignity as a man, I can't cater for my family anymore,” Aruna said.

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