

# Generator fumes kill couple, two kids, others

## • Four-day old survives

**A** MIDDLE-aged man, his wife and two children have lost their lives after reportedly inhaling fumes from power generating set at their residence in Nkwele Ezunaka, near Onitsha, Anambra State.

The mother-in-law and an apprentice were said to have also suffocated to death while fast asleep in the same building.

The Nation gathered that the man, identified as Ifeanyi from Enugu state, a trader at Onitsha Bridge Head Market, had planned a surprise package of moving into a new apartment for his wife who was delivered

From Emma Elekwa, Onitsha of a baby a few days ago.

A family source said it was the same night they moved into the apartment to celebrate both the newborn baby and the mansion together that the incident occurred.

The source said: "The entire members of the family were enjoying themselves when suddenly there was a power outage. The man had to put on the generating set stationed at the veranda close to the bedroom.

"The celebration continued into the night before they all slept off and didn't remember

to put off the generating set.

"The next morning, a friend who was to join them in the celebration but was unable to, went to felicitate with them only to discover that the doors were locked with the generator still on.

"After knocking continuously without response, he alerted other neighbours who forced the door open and saw their bodies."

The Nation further learnt that the wife and one of the daughters were still unconscious when they were rushed to Borromeo Hospital but lat-

er died after efforts to resuscitate them, including fixing them on oxygen failed.

"It was only the four-day old baby that survived without any crisis which raised more curiosity on the circumstances of the death of others," the source said.

Manager of St. Charles Borromeo Hospital, Onitsha, Rev. Fr. Izunna Okonkwo, confirmed that only the newborn was in stable condition when they reached the hospital, while the other four had already died before arrival at the facility. Police spokesperson, Tochukwu Ikenga, described the incident as unfortunate."