

period of their incarceration- mitted the offence on May of Nigeria, 2003. Malawians who have been despondent."

1 feared dead, as fire guts property in Lagos

CHUKWUMA OKPARAOCHA - LAGOS

A young man identified as Toheeb Balogun was on Wednesday, feared killed in a fire incident which occurred at 4, Aminatu Ilo Street, Ejigbo, Lagos.

According to information

gathered, the 31-year-old victim was said to have been trapped in one of the floors of the affected property and was subsequently killed by the fire before any form of help could come his way.

It was also gathered that the fire started at around 12.30 a.m, when many of the occupants of the building

had gone to sleep.

The inferno, which cause could not be immediately ascertained, damaged two flats of three-bedroom, which were parts of the upper floors of the affected building.

Confirming the incident to the **Nigerian Tribune** was the Director of Lagos State Fire Service, Mr Rasaq

Fadipe, who also disclosed that the timely intervention of firefighters from the Agege and Isolo stations prevented the fire from destroying the ground floor of the building.

He also added that the fire was subsequently stopped from spreading to other nearby houses.

Fadipe, who disclosed that the one-storey building was fully in flames before firefighters arrived at the scene, advised members of the public not to waste a moment to contact the state fire service by dialing the numbers provided.

"Members of the public should not hesitate to contact the state fire service if there's any fire incident. They should not hesitate to dial the simple numbers provided (767 or 112), even if the fire is something they feel they can handle on their own," he said.

One of the notable sympathisers paid a visit to the scene on Wednesday was Oba Monif Ojoola of Ejigbo.

Code of Conduct Bureau, Tribunal law passes 2nd reading

Bureau necessary for a public officer to maintain or operate a bank account outside Nigeria.

The bill also seeks to delete proviso to Section 18(1) by enacting an amended section 18(2).

The bill was co-sponsored by Emmanuel Jime (PDP-Benue), Udoh Ibeji (PDP-Abia) and Faparusi Bamidele (APC-Ekiti).

Leading debate on the general principle of the bill, Jime, the lead sponsor, said that the bill, if passed, would encourage and ensure transparency and accountability

by public office holders.

"If this bill is eventually

passed into law, it will establish the legal framework which has been missing in the provisions of Section 3(c) of the Code of Conduct and Tribunal Act.

"It will also offer a procedure for records of assets and liabilities declaration for public office holders to become more public and accessible to all members of the Nigerian public," he said.

"As legislators, we owe it to our constituents and we owe it to posterity the duty of passing proactive legislations.

"Let us not forget that as part of the 2011 and 2013

legislative agenda of this House, our responsibility is to make laws for the peace, order and good governance of the federation.

"Therefore, our legislative intervention is supposed to give priority to high impact, people-centred legislation linked to service delivery and the ultimate attainment of the Millennium Development Goals," he said.

Jime cited countries in Latin America, such as Argentina, Brazil, Chile, among others, that had created electronic platforms for publishing information about government officials' personal asserts.