

2 die in Port Harcourt fire outbreak

UDUAKABASI PATRICK
- PORT HARCOURT

TWO women were reportedly killed in a fire incident that occurred in the early hours of Tuesday, around

n Benue

While acknowledging the roles of traditional rulers in the amnesty programme, the governor announced that the amnesty committee set up by his administration was working out detailed modalities to rehabilitate and reintegrate those who surrender illegal weapons.

According to him the modalities included a retreat at which terms of rehabilitation and reintegration of the affected persons would be unveiled.

He restated his determination to tackle security issues first so as to provide an enabling environment for investment into the state in order to create massive jobs, wealth and opportunities.

the CEC axis of Aba Road, Port Harcourt, Rivers State.

Nigerian Tribune gathered that the fire started around 2.30 a.m. but could not be put off because of its magnitude and the fear that came upon the neighbours.

An elderly man, who spoke anonymously with **Nigerian Tribune**, said a brother to the victims survived the fire, but was badly wounded and is currently responding to treatment at an undisclosed hospital.

He said he could not ascertain the cause of the fire, but suspected that it could have been caused by a lit candle.

"There was no light, (electricity). We have not had light for some time here and they were not cooking because it was late at night.

"I heard the cry and shout of their brother who is currently in the hospital and my house is very close to their own. I was afraid so I ran out of my house and ran for my dear life too because

the fire has already entered my own apartment.

"People could not come because they were all afraid. The boy is currently in the hospital and the police have come to evacuate the bodies of the two ladies," he said.

Another resident of the area also explained that they actually heard the cry and the shout of the victims but was scared of coming out of the house with her family because she felt it was a robbery attack in the environ.

According to her, the victims were from Akwa Ibom State but resident in Port Harcourt, where they were earning a living.

"I heard their voice, but we all felt they were attacked by armed robbers so we could not come out to rescue them.

"They were grown up women. They have a mother that always come to visit them here in Port Harcourt but she lives in the village", she said.

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