

80-year-old burnt, 3-year-old falls, dies inside soak-away

OLALEKAN OLABULO

TRAGEDY struck early Wednesday morning as an 80-year-old woman was burnt to death in a fire incident in Maryland area of Lagos State.

A three-year-old girl also fell inside a soak-away in Ijede area of Ikorodu and died, before she could be rescued by firemen.

The deceased octogenarian, identified as Catherine Damilola was in one of the rooms on the upper floor of the 5-bedroom duplex, situated at 25, Wasinmi Street, Maryland when the fire incident occurred.

A fire service source told **Lagos Metro** that the woman must have struggled to get out of the burning house as her body was reportedly found on the door, which was forced open.

A source at the Lagos State Fire Service told **Lagos Metro** that "residents of the area, who saw the fire quickly rushed to the Anthony Fire Station, where the incident was reported.

"By the time our men got there, the woman's room had been badly burnt, but we prevented the fire from spreading beyond that room. We rescued a young girl, but after we forced the door of the woman's room open, we saw her burnt body at the back of the door."

The director of the Lagos State Fire Service, Rasak Fadipe confirmed the death of the woman to **Lagos Metro**.

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