

# ① Four-day-old baby survives as generator fumes kill man, wife, children, mother-in-law, apprentice in Anambra

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**A**N Onitsha-based businessman, his wife, two children, mother-in-law and his new apprentice have been reported dead after inhaling fumes from a power generating set.

The incident occurred on the first night the family slept in their new house at Nkwele Ezunaka, near Onitsha, in Oyi

Local Government Area of Anambra State.

Sympathisers cried uncontrollably on Wednesday at Borromeo Hospital in Onitsha, where the victims were rushed to.

A source said the man, Ifeanyi, from Enugu State, a trader at Onitsha Bridge Head Market, in giving his wife a surprise following her discharge from the hospital after giving birth to a new

baby, had decided that they would pack into their new house at Nkwele Ezunaka to celebrate the new born and new house together.

It was learnt that following a blackout in the community, the man decided put on the generating set stationed at the veranda close to the bedroom to provide electricity in the new house that night.

They were said to have later retired into their bedrooms

without putting off the generating set.

The next morning, a friend of the man who was supposed to join them in the celebration the previous day but who could not make it, went to visit them, only to discover that the door was locked while the generating set was still on.

After knocking without getting any response, he alerted other neighbours and they

forced the door open, only to discover the bodies of the victims.

On rushing them to the hospital, the wife and one of the daughters were still half-conscious but died after all efforts, including putting them on oxygen, failed, while only the four-day-old baby survived.

Chairman of Onitsha Bridgehead drug market, Ndubuisi Chukwuneta, who

confirmed the development, described the deceased as a hardworking young man.

The manager of St. Charles Borromeo Hospital, Onitsha, Reverend Father Izunna Okonkwo, confirmed that only the new-born baby was in stable condition when the family was rushed to the hospital.

He said four persons had already died before getting to the facility.