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Five killed, many injured in Kwara tanker fire

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FIVE persons have been reported dead while many sustained varying degrees of injury after a fully loaded petrol tanker fell and caught fire in Moro Local Government Area of Kwara State, at the weekend.

Nigerian Tribune gathered that the incident occurred when the tanker fell and emptied its content on the road.

According to an eyewitness, some content of the petroleum product that found its way into a roadside drainage was ignited as a result of some residents engaging in outdoor cooking.

"Two children that went to fetch water were burnt. One died in the process and the second is battling for life at a hospital. A man defecating in the bush was also burnt in the inferno and about three other people scooping the

product were caught up by the fire and burnt to ashes.

"We only discovered their charred bodies the next day. But we have about five deaths while around seven people were injured so far," the eyewitness hinted.

He also disclosed that some of the victims who were rushed to the hospital later died while others were transferred to the University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital (UITH), in Ilorin, because of

the severity of their burns.

The spokesperson for the Kwara State Fire Service, Hassan Hakeem Adekunle, confirmed the incident on Sunday.

He said the fire was handled by the Fire Service of the Jebba Paper Mill, explaining that "several people were injured while some victims later died at the hospital. But, I cannot put a figure to the casualties now."