

One dead, five houses, truck destroyed as fire razes alleged illegal refinery in Kano

Kola Oyelere | Kano

ONE person was killed, while five residential houses and a truck were razed as fire gutted an alleged illegal oil refinery at Katango area of Wailari, located on Ring Road Bypass, opposite Maryam Shekarau Estate in Kano.

An eyewitness said the fire started at about 9:50a.m. on Monday.

The eyewitness said it took

about three hours before operatives of the Kano State Fire Service could bring the fire under control.

He added that the body of the victim, identified as Aminu, which was burnt beyond recognition, was later recovered from the debris of the illegal refinery by the firefighters.

Another eyewitness, who is an official of the Vehicle Inspection Office (VIO), Ahmad Umar Gaya, said he

was on duty on the road when he heard an explosion and saw fireballs at the location.

Gaya said: "I immediately called the attention of the Kano State Fire Service and directed them to the location.

"The place, which is located in the midst of residential houses at Katango in Wailari, is used to stock scraps of trucks and trailers

and also to refine used engine oil for other purposes."

He added that "no one can tell what exactly happened that led to the explosion. The trailer carrying drums of used engine oil was gutted by fire and the driver was trapped and burnt beyond recognition.

"Close to the location were residential houses and about five houses were gutted by the inferno."