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## Mysterious fire kills two siblings in Lagos

By Olalekan Adetayo

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The dream of the Krakami family of Ijanikin, a suburb of Lagos, of celebrating the nation's 48th independence anniversary with Nigerians was shattered on Tuesday evening when two children of the family died in a mysterious fire.

Our correspondent learnt on Wednesday that the siblings, 11-year-old Michael Krakami, and his nine-year-old relation, Joy Krakami, died in the fire that engulfed their apartment at Osadolor Close, Mebamu, Ijanikin at about 9pm on Tuesday.

They reportedly died shortly after returning from a church service.

Also a neighbour told our correspondent that because their Ghanaian parents were not at home when they returned from the church, the children decided to lock themselves up in the apartment apparently to keep unwanted guests at bay especially since there was a power outage at the time.

It was the black smoke that was bellowing from the apartment a few minutes after the children arrived that attracted neighbours to the scene.

The neighbours had to break the door to gain access to the apartment.

It was, however too late as the remains of the children were found in the room.

A police source told our correspondent that surprisingly, apart from the window blind, the fire did not destroy any property in the room.

He said a bush lamp was, however, sighted in the room with thick black smoke, suggesting that the children might have been suffocated to death.

The Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. Frank Mba, confirmed the incident to our correspondent on Wednesday.

Mba, a Superintendent of Police, said that investigation had already commenced to ascertain the cause of the fire.

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