

Petrol tanker fire kills two in Ogun

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TWO persons were on Thursday, in Ogere, Ogun State, reported dead while welding a petrol tanker.

Our correspondent gathered that the two men were welding some parts of the tanker when the incident occurred.

The tanker, though empty, still contained remnants of the combustible product, but unknown to the two victims.

The Managing Director of Gateway Trailer Park Limited, Mr. Leke Adesanya, identified the victims simply as Nureeni and his apprentice, Moshood.

In the process of welding the tanker with registration number XA 666 BUJ, it caught fire and roasted the two welders.

Also, some shops in the neighbourhood were said to be torched.

Our correspondent further learnt that efforts made by men of the Federal Road Safety Corps to convey the corpses to the nearest mortuary were rebuffed by their kinsmen, who insisted on burying them

instantly.

In a telephone conversation with our correspondent, the state's acting Sector Commander of the FRSC, Mr. Segun Adeyemi, confirmed the incident.

He said that the two men were welding a petrol tanker when it exploded and killed

them on the spot.

Adeyemi said officials of the FRSC tried to take the corpses to the mortuary but some people in the area explained that they preferred to bury them according to Moslem rites once and for all.

He said, "The two men were welding a petrol tanker and gas exploded on them.

Ramadan: Prices of fruits rise

big ones went for N100 as against N50.

At the Oyingbo Market, a water melon which cost between N120 and N150 before Ramadan was being sold for between N180 and N200.

At the Apogbon Market, a bunch of bananas was being sold for N250, as against the former price of between N180 and N200.

A medium-sized pawpaw cost between N280 and N300, as against the former price of between N220 and N250.

A fruit seller, Mrs. Bukola Olojede, said, "During Ramadan, demand for fruits is always higher than supply and most of these fruits are not always in season during this period.

And they died immediately. Our men tried to take their bodies to the mortuary, but their people intervened and said it was not necessary. They (FRSC officials) decided to let them have their way.

"They even said that with the ongoing Ramadan fast, there was no need taking them to the mortuary."

"Most times, we go as far as Cotonou (Republic of Benin) to buy them and all this add to the cost of the fruits."

Another fruit seller, Mrs. Jokotade Sanni, said that patronage had increased in spite of the high cost, adding that Muslims could not do without eating fruits during Ramadan.

A teacher, Mrs. Modinat Alalade, said that prices of fruits were always on the increase during the Ramadan period because Muslims preferred breaking their fast with fresh fruits.

Majority of the consumers interviewed told NAN that retailers should be blamed for the sudden increase in the prices of the fruits during Ramadan.

he was not aware that any them was prevented from voting.

He also alleged that the security operatives present during the exercise took away all the electoral materials with strong instruction that the voters should not either be counted or announced as at 9.00p.m. when it ended on Wednesday.

Falade said, "The government did not allow to see details of the voting pattern. They took everything away and told us to wait when we will be called upon to do the proper announcement."

"We were surprised when we were told a few minutes after that the government had announced another candidate who did not win the election. We will go to court if the decision of the kingmakers, who are traditionally empowered to appoint a king, is not respected," he added.

The claim of Falade was, however, faulted by Akerele who maintained that the announcement of the new President should be done by the government and not the kingmakers.

Akerele also explained that the documents used for the election were not tampered with and could be produced at any time.