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4th January, 2013

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Generator fumes kill 80-year-old woman, four grandchildren

January 4, 2013 by Rasheed Bisiriyu and Kunle Falayi [33 Comments](#)



/ credits: Rasheed Bisiriyu

Sorrow and sadness on Thursday enveloped Robiyan, near Ijoko in Ifo Local Government, Ogun State as residents discovered the lifeless bodies of an 80 year-old woman, identified as Madam Kuburat, and her four grandchildren, including a toddler in a newly completed house.

Five other people who slept in the house were in critical conditions at two general hospitals as doctors battle to save their lives.

Although there were different accounts of what could have caused their death, the Divisional Police Officer of Agbado Police Station, Mr. Okere Daniel, suspected it could be fumes from a generator.

The DPO said, “From the physical examination of the victims, it is obvious that they must have died of carbon monoxide, all foaming from the mouth; this means that they must be gasping (for breath).

“A similar thing happened at Obadofin in 2010, when I was a DPO at Alafia. A whole family was wiped off. It was during a festive period like this; they put on the generator and locked it up inside the house for use overnight.”

It was learnt that the generator which was placed in the veranda of the house must have worked overnight while the doors and windows were locked.

Apart from the 10 people, a man and his wife also in the house were said to have rushed their child to a nearby community hospital at midnight when they found her gasping for breath.

PUNCH Metro learnt that it was the woman that reportedly cried out and alerted the whole community to the tragedy when she returned in the morning and found everybody “sleeping.”

The traditional ruler of the area, Chief Olu Kujore, said he ordered his men to break into the house and forced the windows open.

Kujore said, “We hurriedly rushed those who were still breathing to the hospital. Some of them were taken to Ota General Hospital while others were taken to Ifako General Hospital.

“But two of the kids died before they could be attended to at the hospital and their corpses had to be returned to the house.”

One of our correspondents saw the five dead victims before they were taken to the Ota General Hospital for autopsy.

Another resident of the area, who identified himself as Baba Michael, said no fewer than five bricklayers with different sets of workers handled the construction of the house.

“During the construction, three times, a section of the house had collapsed and had to be re-erected,” he said.

A young lady, Amina Disu, who said she was Kuburat’s grandchild, said they had come to the village for the Christmas and New Year festivities.

She recalled that they prepared rice for the family and their neighbours on Wednesday before she left for business at Mushin in Lagos.

Disu said, “My mother had a protracted battle with two other people over the ownership of the land before she eventually built it. And we went through hell to get the job done.

“My mother was a fish seller at Mushin. We only came to celebrate the Christmas and New Year with granny. My brother, his wife and their children were around too. It was a full house. I was here yesterday (Wednesday). We had fun and had to serve food to our neighbours.”

She said she was surprised when her granny’s neighbours called her to inform her about the incident.

Police Public Relations Officer in Ogun State, Muyiwa Adejobi, who confirmed the incident, said the matter would be investigated.

“The fumes were discovered to have got into the house through the veranda where it was placed. Three of the victims had died before they got to the hospital, while two others also died later in the hospital. Five others, who were affected, are currently recuperating,” he said.

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• *ozaluoku* January 4, 2013 at 2:54 am

THE CABALS IS HOLDING US HOSTAGE..I PASS MY NEIGHBOR GENERATOR SHOULD BE BANNED.. POISONOUS FUMES FROM IT IS DANGEROUS AND HAVE CONTINUED TO KILL INNOCENT CITIZENS.OUR SLOW &FAST GOVERNMENT..PLS LET THERE BE LIGHT....

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◦ *seekergolden* January 4, 2013 at 4:16 am

This is a very serious matter. Fix electricity and make sure that every house has fire alarm...

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• *FREE SOCIAL SITE www.stoofun.com* January 4, 2013 at 3:15 am

HOW COULD A PRESIDENT BAN WHAT HE IS USING TO SCAM NIGERIANS. IF THERE WILL BE LIGHT, THE GENERATOR WILL BE OFF THE MARKET. THEY CANT DO IT CAUSE THEY REAP FROM THE GEN SETS... NIGERIA IS RIPE FOR DESTRUCTION .

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• *Jrock* January 4, 2013 at 3:17 am

There is a cheap solution—implement a carbon monoxide detector policy for every building in the country. The detectors can easily be manufactured in the country and will save countless lives. Carbon monoxide is a silent, odorless killer. When will we start making policies that would actually benefit the citizenry?

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◦ *Saboeggan* January 4, 2013 at 7:17 am

joseph (the dreamer), we re talking light solution u talking co2 detector, this is nigeria; the least of things have not been fixed u re going sophisticated.....i pity u.

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■ akanbiogo January 4, 2013 at 9:17 am

LMAO

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○

KK Lagos January 4, 2013 at 8:48 am

Correct! and carbon monoxide detectors use batteries so no need to depend on Nepa to use. They will beep whenever the gas is detected and wake people sleeping before harm is done. Nigerian govt should be able to provide these (carbon monoxide detectors) to everyhousehold in Nigeria, same way they plan to provide cell phones to farmers.

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●

Chukwuemeka January 4, 2013 at 3:24 am

Why do some Nigerians always make this mistake of letting generators fume in a room.MAY THEIR SOULS REST IN PEACE.

[Reply Link](#)



●

Eziokwu January 4, 2013 at 3:32 am

If the PHCN (Problem Has Changed Name – NEPA) will be supplying light, nobody will go for I PASS MY NEIGHBOR generator. If there is adequate security and job opportunity for people, there will be no fear of stealing or trying to keep generator inside. It is still the government that is killing innocent people through many ways. Pls, our Nigerian government should do something to save life. Life is so costly. No hospital, no road, no security, no job, no money, nothing is working at all.

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○

Lawrence January 4, 2013 at 7:42 am

I feel you, my brother.

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●

kkkk January 4, 2013 at 4:04 am

The President should quickly do energy reform as soon as possible in order to save innocent people from useless untimely death

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kkkk January 4, 2013 at 4:43 am

Very sad

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[boxing day australia](#) January 4, 2013 at 4:59 am

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peaceman kalu January 4, 2013 at 5:06 am

this is what we get from bad government that has failed to deliver. may their souls rest in peace.

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Aidege January 4, 2013 at 5:08 am

Nawa o...ignorance is actually a disease, it kills. R I P.

[Reply Link](#)



Aidege January 4, 2013 at 5:11 am

kkkk, kenny rothy. why are you using my account. yahoo boy. thief.

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• kkkk January 4, 2013 at 5:36 am

blame jonathan pls

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• *Judgement is for sure* January 4, 2013 at 5:50 am

It is only in Nigeria that general becomes the main source of power in this new age, yet we are hearing of fraud and embezzlement in high places. Our politicians are just heartless and our people gullible, including myself and u! We need to take our destiny into our own hands and come out in large numbers to genuinely kick against so many ills in our society. But will self-centredness ever allow us to do that? Just imagine the lives of young and innocent people cut off and their destinies transferred to the grave by fumes, will such death occur if we were to have 24 hours power supply? No! Some deaths are just too cheap and we have taken death to be what we can buy with 1 kobo, whereas death ought to be more expensive than life, yes!

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• [felix kalu](#) January 4, 2013 at 6:19 am

hard luck 2 dis family.

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• *Gab* January 4, 2013 at 6:38 am

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• *Chybaby* January 4, 2013 at 7:16 am

God help us

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• *Lawrence* January 4, 2013 at 7:50 am

I commiserate with the families of the deceased. Nigerian government, please hasten up the power reform process—Nigeria is richly blessed with resources that can make her citizens happy if properly harnessed but.....

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• *CHRIS* January 4, 2013 at 8:09 am

Who be chris

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• *funmine* January 4, 2013 at 8:36 am

Wake d sleeping govt up, give us electricity

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• *Grace* January 4, 2013 at 8:57 am

The man that lost his kids is my colleague in the office who just got a job in November after several years of searching, we all share your pains here, may Almighty God give you the fortitude to bear this lose, please take heart.

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• *abdul nelson* January 4, 2013 at 8:59 am

the frequent use of generators @ homes offices and even churches is for no other reason but for power supply.come to think of it if we are provided with Electricity by our Govt will all this deaths occure? Absolutely no. Yet Nigerians are not still wise enough to know who is for plus or minus to the nation. All we concern about is the monev #150 we get from politicians during campaigns and

hes from our party and village. Enough of all that rubbish we are now 52 plus.when will all this end? Bad government Unimmaginable happenings. All the same wish the family of the deaceasd the fortitude to bear the loose

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• *Salman Farisi* January 4, 2013 at 9:06 am

FG is responsible for these deaths.

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• *ay* January 4, 2013 at 9:09 am

Today we are slowing to avoid mistake, tomoro will be faster to loot enuf money for generation yet unborn. wht a confused government in power.

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• *Okoko* January 4, 2013 at 9:15 am

Many Nigerians will say that they are not murderers. But see what is happening. If govt officials, PHCN staff and all that were involved had done what they should do, this wouldn't have happened. We in this country should remenber the judgement day.

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• *One Day Na One Day* January 4, 2013 at 9:18 am

NIG GOVERNMENT IS DISGRACE TO NIG..... R I P.

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• *akanbiogo* January 4, 2013 at 9:46 am

May the lord grant the family of the victims the fortitude to bear the loss.

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- *Elewa* January 4, 2013 at 9:48 am

I am tired of all these..... Cant we occupy Nigeria for a longer period of days?

Guys what we are experiencing is Government of some people and for the few people.

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- *Deji Adeeko* January 4, 2013 at 9:52 am

OOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOH

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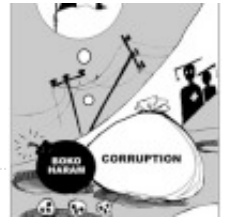
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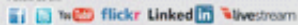


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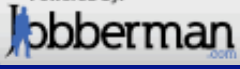
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