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16-year-old killed as fire guts building in Lekki

SEPTEMBER 8, 2015 : AFEEZ HANAFI 4 COMMENTS

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| credits: Afeez Hanafi

Relatives of one Jinadu of Ajiran Road, Agungi, in the Lekki area of Lagos State, say they have yet to arrive at a mild way to break to him and his wife the news of the death of their16-year-old boy,

PUNCH Metro learnt that the teenager died in the fire which gutted the family's four-bedroomed duplex around 1am on Monday when the household was asleep.

It was learnt that Timileyin was having a shower in the bathroom when the fire engulfed him. His parents and two siblings, who managed to escape from the building, became unconscious after inhaling fumes. They were said to have been admitted in a hospital in the area.

The deceased was said to be preparing for his university

education when the tragedy struck.

Our correspondent gathered that the fire broke out from a spark which reportedly emanated from an upsurge in power voltage. It reportedly gutted the apartment, destroying its roof and the family's valuables.

It was gathered that the Lagos State Fire Service was alerted to the incident around 1.40am and firefighters from Lekki and Onikan stations responded.

Timileyin's remains were said to have been handed over to the Ilasan Police Division after the fire was put out around 4am.

When PUNCH Metro visited the residence around 10am, distraught relatives and colleagues of the family were seen deliberating on how to inform the deceased's parents of his death.

Timileyin's uncle, who identified himself only as Charles, said the victims had regained consciousness and were responding to treatment.

He said, "It was a neighbour who called me on the phone. I rushed down here and met the house burnt. It is painful that we lost one of them (the family members.) He (Timileyin) had finished his secondary school education and was preparing to enter university. The parents are still in the hospital with other two children. They are in good conditions, but we have not broken the news to them."

A resident in the area, Mohammed Bello, said, "I learnt the boy was inside the bathroom and did not know there was a fire outbreak. His parents and siblings were woken up by the fumes resulting from the fire and managed to escape."



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The Director, Lagos State Fire Service, Mr. Rasaq Fadipe, confirmed the incident to our correspondent.

He said, "We received a distress call at 1.40am that a duplex of four bedrooms was on fire. Our men from Lekki and Onikan responded with a 10,000-litre truck and chemical to put out the fire.

"A 16-year-old boy was consumed by the fire while other family members who inhaled fumes had been rushed to a hospital.

"My advice to people is to ensure that their appliance are switched off when they are not in use. If the appliances are not on, the snap will not have anything to surge on."

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