

Inferno kills seven in Akwa Ibom

April 9, 2016

Six children and a mother on Friday lost their lives in an inferno in Uyo, the Akwa Ibom State capital. An eyewitness, Mr. Ekemini Obot, said the fire started at about 2am on Friday.

He said his wife, who went outside to urinate around the time, noticed the fire in the next compound and raised the alarm which attracted neighbours.

Obot explained that before the neighbours came out to rescue the victims, the fire had consumed them.

He recalled that he had to forcefully pull his grandmother out of the fire, one of the victims, who he said was critically injured and rushed her to the University of Uyo Teaching hospital for medical attention.

Obot said, "I am Ekemini Obot, the grandson to the landlady who owned this house that has been burnt.

"The incident occurred around 2am when my wife went outside to urinate and saw the fire, she raised the alarm.

"We suspect that the compound was sprayed with petrol which helped the fire to burn easily."

Obot added that he suspected the incident was masterminded by a man who had a dispute with his grandmother.

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