

Ekiti mother, two children die after *amala* meal

Abiodun Nejo,
Ado Ekiti

THE Speaker of the Ekiti State House of Assembly, Funminiyi Afuye, on Thursday, directed the House Committee on Health to commence investigation into the death of a 45-year-old woman and her two children, aged 12 and 14, after an *amala* (yam flour) meal in Odo-Ayedun Ekiti in the Ikole Local Government Area of the state.

The woman's husband, who is in his 50s, and also partook in the meal, is said to be in a critical condition at the Federal Teaching Hospital in Ido Ekiti, as doctors are still battling to save his life.

Eyewitnesses said two dogs that also ate from the food died.

Afuye, who spoke at the plenary of the assembly, in response to the member



• Ekiti State CP, Asuquo Amba

representing the Ikole Constituency II, Adeoye Aribasoye, who brought the matter to the notice of the House, sympathised with the family of the deceased and the people of the community over the tragic incident.

Aribasoye had called for sympathy and investigation into the matter.

The lawmaker told journalists that the meal, which was prepared by the mother, was served to all members of the family as dinner.

He stated, "After the meal on Saturday, the mother and her two children complained of stomach ache overnight and they resorted to self

medication, which led to the death of the woman on Monday and the two children in quick succession between Monday and Tuesday.

"Before the news of the deaths was broken to the father, he was already down and was rushed to the FETHI, where he is currently battling to stay alive."

Aribasoye, who said the cause of the incident was still unknown, noted that food poisoning was suspected.

The lawmaker lamented the poor facilities at the health centre in Odo-Ayedun from which he noted the victims could have received first aid.

When contacted, the state Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Caleb Ikechukwu, confirmed the incident, saying the command would join hands with other institutions to investigate the cause of the deaths.

EFCC arrests 25 LAUTECH students for Internet fraud

Adelani Adepegba.

surveillance and monitoring

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