Five-year-old dies, properties destroyed in Bauchi market fire

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Part of the market razed by fire

Armstrong Bakam, Bauchi

A five-year-old boy has reportedly died in a fire outbreak at the Muda Lawal Market located in Bauchi State.

The PUNCH learnt that properties worth millions of Naira were destroyed in the inferno.

The Chairman of the market, Baba Magaji, who confirmed the incident, said the five-year-old was sleeping in one of the shops when the incident happened.

Magaji said, "The fire started from a truck carrying mattresses that parked in the market since yesterday. Most of the eyewitnesses said that there a Keke Napep that parked closed to the truck, started the fire as a result of an electric spark"

"We recorded huge losses in the fire outbreak. A five-year-old boy, who was sleeping in one of the shops in the market during the fire incident, died.

"So far, 17 shops, 8 cars, 11 motorcycles, and 1 Keke Napep were burnt in the inferno.

"Some of the youths threw stones at the vehicle of the fire service because they were angry they arrived late at the scene of incident. It took the intervention of the security agents to calm the situation."

Efforts to speak with the state Police Public Relations Officer, Kamal Abubakar, were not successful as several calls made to his mobile phone were not picked as of the time of filing this report.