Benue widow dies in midnight fire

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A widow, identified simply as Aondozungwe, on Saturday, reportedly died in an overnight fire that gutted her house in the Mbagen community, Buruku Local Government Area of Benue State

According to a source in the community, the victim, who was a nurse by profession, was said to have died in the inferno.

Her death raised suspicion among residents of the community with some alleging that the woman might have been set ablaze in her building as a cover-up for murder.

The source, who did want his name mentioned, said the widow had a week ago raised the alarm about threat to her life.

"She had about a week ago told some people about threat to her life by unknown persons for reasons she did not mention," the source stated.

He said Aondozungwe hailed from the Mbaityough community.

"Her remains were buried at her hometown later on Saturday, but some residents, who believed that her death was shrouded in misery, urged security agencies to find her killers," the source added.

When contacted, Benue State Police Command spokesperson, DSP Catherine Anene, confirmed the fire incident, adding that she would make public any further development.

"The fire incident was reported. Investigation is in progress," Anene said.