## news

## Niger explosion death toll hits 98

Chika Otuchikere, Gift Habib, Ted Odogwu, Godwin Isenyo and Faith Maji

DEATH toll from Saturday's fuel tanker explosion in Niger State has reached 98, with 69 injured and 20 shops razed.

On Monday, the Federal Government said victims still battling for life had been transferred to tertiary medical centres for enhanced care in life with President Bola Tinubu's directive.

The death toll, as of Sunday, was 86 with 55 injured.

Providing an update in a statement on Monday, the Director General of the Niger State Emergency Management Agency, Abdullahi Baba-Arah, said, "More deaths have been recorded from the fire incident. The latest figure is now 98 deaths, 69 injured and 20 shops burnt."

The PUNCH learnt that out of the 43 injured victims admitted at the General Hospital, Suleja, seven had died. Also, three injured patients out of the 23 admitted at the General Hospital, Sabon-Wuse, died.

In a statement on Monday by the media aide to the Minister of Information and National Orientation, Rabiu Ibrahim, the Federal Government said surviving but injured victims had been transferred for enhanced medical care.

The minister stated, "In line with the directive of President Bola Tinubu for the swift transfer of victims of the Suleja fuel tanker explosion to tertiary medical centers for enhanced medical attention, 20 patients have been admitted to Gwagwalada Specialist Hospital in Abuja.

 Continued on www. punching.com

## Trump inauguration: Kumuyi gears up for global evangelism

Wale Akinselure

THE Deeper Christian Life Ministry is set to partner with the United States government and its pastors to advance global evangelism efforts.

Founder and General Superintendent of the DCLM, Pastor William Kumuyi, made this announcement on his official X account, @pastorwf\_kumuyi, on Monday.

Kumuyi shared the news following a meeting with U.S. Congressman Robert Pittenger and Pastor Lucas Miles of Turning Point USA.

The meeting took place ahead of the inauguration of Donald J. Trump as the 47th President of the United States.

"It was great meeting with Congressman Robert Pittenger and Pastor Lucas Miles of @TPUSA yesterday, discussing how we can partner together for global evangelism as we prepare for the Inauguration of President Donald J. Trump," Kumuyi wrote.

He added: "The harvest is plentiful. Let's pray for open doors and hearts ready to receive the gospel! We believe in the power of the gospel to transform lives and nations. Exciting times ahead!"

Kumuyi was among a select group of African pastors who participated in the Inauguration Praise and Prayer Convocation held in honour of Donald Trump's incoming administration.

The event, hosted at Greater New Hope Baptist Church, was organized by Jim Garlow's Well Versed World ministry in collaboration with Tony Perkins of the Family Research Council.

•Continued on www. punching.com