

Seven killed in fresh Niger tanker explosion, farms razed

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| By Chika Otuchikere

File: A Fuel tanker explosion scene

A fresh tanker explosion has occurred in Niger State, killing seven people and destroying farms.

The explosion occurred around 6:30pm at Karamin Rami village of Mashegu Local Government Area of the state, on Tuesday

City Round learnt that the accident happened when a tanker truck was trying to manoeuvre a bad portion of the road.

According to report, the tanker fell and spilt its content on the road, flowing to a nearby stream where farmers were working on their rice fields.

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The tanker's content was said to have mixed with the farmers' water pump and caught fire immediately, resulting in the tanker's explosion.

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The inferno moved to the farmland through the already contaminated water and burnt some of the farmers and the whole rice field, including fruit vegetation.

Confirming the incident on Friday, the Director General of the Niger State Emergency Management Agency, Abdullahi Baba-Arah, gave the name of the deceased persons as Rafiatu Sahabi, Ramlat Shehu, Rashida Abdullahi, Raliya Abdulrahaman, Zainab Ahmed, Zuwaira Idrisu and Maryam A Nura.

Baba-Arah said one person, Maimuna Isah, sustained injury in the explosion.

"The injured woman has been receiving treatment at Saho Rami Primary Health Care," Baba-Arah stated.