\*L-R: Oyo State Governor, Abiola Ajimobi; Alhaji Lateef Oyebola, Alhaji Muibi Oguniyi and other Muslim faithful, praying during the Eid-el-Kabir celebration in Ibadan yesterday.

## Woman, 81, dies in Ondo inferno

From TUNDE RAHEEM, Akure

ragedy struck on Monday in Ondo, Ondo State as an early morning inferno claimed the life of a 81-year-old woman, Akinlami Omogbanju who was trapped in the building.

The building, situated on Okerowo Street, was said to have been gutted by fire around 4am and the development led to pandemonium

The deceased, it was gathered, was said to have a locally made lamp kept beside her bed before the incident occurred. A source said one of the children of the deceased had visited her in company of a little child and left late in the night, warning her to be careful with the lamp.

According to the source, it was a neighbour, who first noticed the fire and subsequently raised the alarm which attracted other residents

Before help could come,

the fire had spread to other parts of the building and the residents who formed a rescue team stayed back to avoid being trapped in the

The fire, which lasted for over hours, was said to have consumed the octogenarian while other occupants of the building escaped unhurt. All items of property in the building were also burnt

Relations of the deceased, who were at the scene of the incident, however, declined to make comment.

A senior police officer at the Enuowa Police Station, who would not want his name mentioned, confirmed the incident and said a team of policemen had been drafted to the area to remove the corpse of the woman and provide security as well as carrying out on-the-spot assessment to ascertain the level of the damage caused by the fire.

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Police spokesman, ASP Wole Ogodo, said his office had not been briefed about the fire but promised to get

back.

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