

AREWA NEWS

Baby burnt to death in Bauchi

FROM PAUL ORUDE,
Bauchi

A month-old baby girl has been burnt to death in a fire outbreak that occurred in Rafin Zurfi area of Bauchi metropolis.

It was gathered that the mother of the infant, identified as Mirabel, left the baby in the custody of her sister in their home.

The baby's aunt and her husband, Edmond, a trader were said to have gone to church, leaving the infant and her three siblings in the care of one Suzan.

Speaking with Daily Sun, Edmond, a father of six, said at the time of res-

cuing the children, neighbours did not know that Mirabel was in one of the rooms sleeping.

The fire started at about 7: 45 pm on Monday in Edmond's bedroom of the seven-room building where three children were playing with a candle.

According to a tenant, one of children knocked the candle down without realising the damage.

According to Aminu Dogo, who rescued other two children, nobody told the rescue team that there was a baby in the room.

"It was a very painful discovery because we would have brought her out alive. I brought out two children alive and one

woman assisted to bring the third child out. It was sad to note that a baby was inside. We did not know."

Edmond said Mirable

was brought to his wife by her sister, who he said went somewhere.

"She has been crying since the incident. It is

sad," he said.

Efforts to get the parents of Mirable to talk failed as the father of the dead baby refused to comment

on telephone. He said his wife was too traumatised by the death of their baby and would not want to talk.

NEMA donates relief materials to displaced Benue people

From ROSE EJEMBI,
Makurdi

The National Emergency management Agency (NEMA) yesterday donated relief materials worth about N45 million to internally displaced persons in different locations across Benue State.

The items donated included blankets, vegetable oil, beverages, toiletries, mattresses, plastic buckets, rice and grains, wrappers, towels,

ground for over two weeks and gone round the areas affected by the Tiv/Fulani crisis to take stock and provide succour to displaced people.

He said when his team got to St. Mary's Primary School in Makurdi, it discovered that poor sanitation was becoming very worrisome and felt the need to construct some makeshift toilets across the eight designated camps to avoid outbreak of epidemic.

The NEMA zonal boss said the Federal Government released funds to the agency

displaced and distressed people in all the eight designated camps within Makurdi metropolis, for the distribution of relief materials.

Mohammed stated that the agency was working closely with the state ministry of health in the area of providing healthcare to the dis-

placed people.

The NEMA boss said there were about 152,000 displaced persons in eight local government areas from over 100 communities as at two weeks ago, adding that the figure had tremendously increased with many more people daily tramping into the camps.

Women group backs Gbemi Saraki for ministerial post

A women political group in the Peo-

minister.
Leader of the group Al-