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Girl, mother, grandmother perish in Port Harcourt fire

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BY TONY JOHN, PORT HARCOURT ON AUGUST 15, 2014 ·

NATIONAL

Tragedy struck in Port Harcourt yesterday as four persons were burnt to death and scores wounded in an early morning fire that gutted residential houses in the Rivers State capital. The incident, which occurred in Agip-Rumueme-Mgbuoshimili area of Obio-Akpor Local Government Area of the state, claimed the lives of a five-year-old girl, her mother and grandmother, as well as a little boy.

It was gathered that the old woman and the boy had visited members of the affected families.

Their neighbours said the fire started at about midnight, adding that the fire was caused by candlelight.

It was also gathered that the girl's father was not in town when the fire disaster occurred. The girl, according to the report, was initially rescued by neighbours at the peak of the inferno and rushed to hospital, where she later died.

Sympathisers commended the State Fire Service for its prompt response to a distress call, which helped in containing the fire.

They accused an oil giant of neglect, adding that the inferno would have caused less damage, if the company had responded promptly to distress calls.

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