

2 children die in Abuja IDP camp

From **Magnus Eze**, Abuja

TWO children of the same parents have died of petrol fire in the Wasa camp of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Waru ward of Abuja Municipal Area Council (AMAC), Federal Capital Territory (FCT).

Ismaila Mohammed (6) and his sister Nana (4) with their cousin, Rahama Buba had suffered severe burns following petrol fire from their father's motorcycle about two weeks ago and were hospitalised at the Trauma Centre of the National Hospital, Abuja.

However, Nana passed on at the weekend, while Ismaila died on August 25.

Their father, Ahmadu Ali, was also hospitalised in the same hospital, having sustained burns while trying to rescue the children.

Trouble started when Ali, a com-

mmercial motorcycle operator popularly known as *okada*, returned home for the day and parked his motorcycle.

In his absence, the children fiddled with the fuel hose of the motorbike and the dripping fuel ignited fire from where their mother was cooking.

Five of the children belonging to Ahmadu and his brother, Buba, were affected by the inferno which engulfed the motorcycle before he ran out from the toilet on hearing the shouts of 'fire, fire'.

Secretary of Wasa IDP camp, Usman Ibrahim, told our reporter that this year's Sallah celebrations meant nothing to them as the camp was in mourning mood.

He appealed to public spirited individuals and organisations to come to the aid of the survivors, whom he said, had left the hospital and returned to the camp due to their inability to pay medical bills.