

Four die in Kaduna fire

By Emeka Mamah

KADUNA—THERE was a tragedy in Kaduna State in the early hours of yesterday when four members of a family perished in a mysterious fire that burnt their residence at Rigachikun, in Iga-bi local government.

The middle aged housewife was said to be sleeping with her three children when the fire started and burnt them beyond recognition.

However the first wife of Alhaji Abdulrasheed, Kubra, who was said to be sleeping with three of her step-children survived the inferno but is lying critically ill at the Garkuwa Hospital in Kaduna.

Names of the dead who were given as Malama Hauwa, Hafsat (seven), Fatima (18 months) and Aliyu (three), were in the same two-bedroom building when the fire which lasted several hours started.

Eyewitnesses said that the

corpses of the deceased persons could not be identified before they were buried yesterday in accordance with Islamic rites.

Governor Mohammed Namadi Sambo who visited the family in Rigachikun expressed shock and bewilderment over the tragedy and prayed the Almighty God to grant them mercy and the family the fortitude to bear the great loss.

The governor however expressed the hope that the deceased were in Paradise, according to Islamic belief over such deaths.

Sambo later visited the other victims of the fire at the hospital where he donated an unspecified amount of money for their treatment at the intensive care unit.

Meanwhile Governor Sambo has advised residents of the state to always switch off their electrical appliances before retiring to bed, especially now that harmattan season has come.