

Tenant sets landlord ablaze in Edo

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By Gabriel Enogholase

BENIN—A tenant, Mr. Jeff Obasohan, has allegedly set his landlord, Pa Joseph Iyen, aged 83, ablaze in his residence on Uwa Street, between Second and Third East Circular Road, Benin City, in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State..

It was gathered that there had been a protracted quarrel between the octogenarian and his tenant over unpaid rent, while it was further learned that the late Pa Iyen had issued the suspect a quit notice on two occasions, when he (Obasohan) allegedly refused to pay.

But the disagreement was said to have degenerated, Wednesday, leading to the tragedy and the elderly man was said to have died, following the severe burns he sustained in the fire.

The incident also drew the attention of residents in the area who thronged the scene to sympathize with the victim's family.

The widow of the deceased, Mrs. Esther Iyen, alleged that the tenant had threatened her life and that of her late husband while he had also failed to pay his electricity bill.

She said, "He does not pay his house rent, he does not pay the light bills. Since 2014, we said he should leave the house, I don't want trouble. He threatened to kill me or my husband. We took him to court. Then, my husband fell sick. Later, they said that the case had been struck out."

When contacted, the state Police Public Relations Officer, Osifo Abiodun, said that the case had been transferred to the State Criminal Investigation Department for further investigation.

