

Mother, 3 daughters die in Yobe fire

YOBE State Fire Service has confirmed that a mother and her three daughters were killed in a fire incident Tuesday night at Red Bricks Quarters, Maiduguri Road in Damaturu, the state capital.

Damaturu Fire Station Officer, Usman Habu, who confirmed the incident, yesterday, said the incident occurred at about 11p.m.

He said: "We were informed about the fire incident at Red Brick's Quarters, Maiduguri Road, Damaturu, around 11p.m.

"When we arrived at the scene, we learned that the victims' father, Malam Adamu Aliyu, had made efforts to rescue his family, but was only able to save his five-year-old son, Faruq Aliyu.

"The fire became too fierce and he could not save the rest of his

family members, but he managed to jump out to safety.

"We forced open the door and recovered the woman's corpse, as well as her three daughters."

Mr. Habu blamed the deaths on lack of a back door to serve as an emergency exit.

He advised prospective tenants and homeowners to always ensure that the property they intended to rent or build had a minimum of two entrances.

"If there was an 'escape door' the man could have saved his family," Mr. Habu said.

The fire station officer also appealed to residents in the state to avoid keeping inflammable items in the home and switch off all electric appliances after a power outage and when not at home.

Binta Mohammed, one of the neighbours and a friend to the family, disclosed that the three girls, Aisha Aliyu, Saadatu Aliyu, and Safiya Aliyu, were aged 10, eight and two years respectively.

Istifanus Dauda, a medical doctor with Damaturu Specialist Hospital, who also confirmed the incident, said the boy was brought in with an inflamed bone and he was receiving medical attention at the hospital.

He explained that "the report that was given by the doctor on call last night was that there were people that lost their lives in the incident.

"According to the report, there was only one survivor in that family apart from the person that is currently on admission."

Navy special forces rescue kidnapped