

Three children suffocate to death

Investigation. Available reports indicate that the family was sleeping in a poorly ventilated house which was temporarily being used as a kitchen.

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LIRA. Three children from the same family suffocated to death at the weekend. This was as a result of suspected smoke from a charcoal stove that was set alight inside the house where they were sleeping at Railways Division in Lira District.

The North Kyoga Regional Police spokesman, ASP David Ongom Mudong, said they were still waiting for a postmortem report to confirm

their cause of death.

"It's true three children from the same family who are residents of Railways Division have died, but we are still going to carry out a post-mortem to establish the cause of their death, although it is suspected that they died as a result of suffocation from carbon-monoxide from charcoal stove," Mr Ongom said.

According to corroborated accounts from neighbours who requested not to be named, at the time the three children including two girls aged 11 and 13 and a boy, 9 died, they were sleeping in a poorly ventilated house.

The same room allegedly served as temporary kitchen and that on the fateful day, the parents to the deceased allegedly prepared a

maize meal on a charcoal stove and it was then left to cook overnight inside the room.

"It's true three children from the same family who are residents of Railways Division have died, but we are still going to carry out a postmortem to establish the cause of their death although it is suspected that they died as a result of suffocation from carbon-monoxide from charcoal stove."

DAVID ONGOM MUDONG, NORTH KYOGA REGIONAL POLICE SPOKESMAN.

The only survivor, a 14-year-old boy who was sleeping next to the door managed to escape before he alerted the neighbours.

He was rushed to Lira Pentecostal

Church (LPC) Health Centre in Central Division.

Ms Betty Oluju, a nurse at LPC health centre told *Daily Monitor* yesterday that the trio was announced dead upon arrival at the health facility.

Mr Rashid Otim, the father to the three children, who was at the health facility, was sad and could not talk to this reporter at the time he visited the health centre.

His wife could not take in the news of the death of her three children.

She collapsed and was admitted at the same health facility.

The three children whose names could not easily be established were all pupils of Lira Police Primary School.

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