

[Low graphics](#) | [Accessibility Help](#)[Search](#)[Explore the BBC](#)[Watch](#) ONE-MINUTE WORLD NEWS

## News Front Page

[Africa](#)[Americas](#)[Asia-Pacific](#)[Europe](#)[Middle East](#)[South Asia](#)[UK](#)[Business](#)[Health](#)[Science & Environment](#)[Technology](#)[Entertainment](#)[Also in the news](#)[Video and Audio](#)[Have Your Say](#)[In Pictures](#)[Country Profiles](#)[Special Reports](#)[Related BBC sites](#)[Sport](#)[Weather](#)[On This Day](#)[Editors' Blog](#)[BBC World Service](#)[Site Version](#)[UK Version](#)[International Version](#)[About the versions](#)[Languages](#)

Page last updated at 22:16 GMT, Sunday, 30 November 2008

[E-mail this to a friend](#)[Printable version](#)

## Nigerian city tense after riots

**At least 200 people have been killed in the Nigerian town of Jos after two days of violence, officials say.**

A curfew has been imposed by police and army officers in the worst-hit neighbourhoods, and an army spokesman said the fighting was over.

However, aid workers reported that gunshots were still heard on Sunday, while medical and water supplies were running low.

The violence was sparked by accusations that an election had been rigged.

Homes were destroyed during the clashes, with mosques and churches burned, as gangs of men from the Muslim Hausa community and the mainly Christian ethnic groups, armed with machetes fought.

The information minister for Plateau State, Nuhu Gagara, said about 200 people died.

"This figure is just preliminary, as a search and rescue committee has been inaugurated by the government to go around the city and recover dead bodies," Mr Gagara told reporters.

Police arrested 500 people on Saturday, carrying "all sorts of lethal weapons," he added.

The BBC's Alex Last in Lagos says the death toll may be far higher. There is no figure for the number of injured.

The local imam at the mosque where Muslims brought their dead said the number was in the hundreds.

At the Vatican, Roman Catholic Church leader Pope Benedict included Nigerian victims in his prayers on Sunday and urged the world to express "horror and disapproval" at the senseless violence.

### Political power

Army spokesman Brig Emeka Onwamaegbu earlier told AFP news agency that there were no more violent incidents on Sunday, but Oxfam co-ordinator Francis Ayinzat told the BBC he heard gunshots before leaving the town for the capital, Abuja.

"There is a very severe shortage of medical supplies, and a lot of people are going without water," Mr Ayinzat said.

Violence flared up on Friday after the mostly Christian-backed governing party, the People's Democratic Party, was declared to have won the state elections in Plateau state, of which Jos is the capital city.

The result was contested by the opposition All Nigeria People's Party,



Some of the Muslim dead were taken to the local mosque



Buildings were burnt during the two days of violence

### NIGERIA - TROUBLED GIANT

#### DEADLY DELTA

['Blood oil' dripping from Nigeria](#)[Elusive peace in oil Delta](#)[Inside the Delta's ER clinic](#)[My brother, the Delta militant](#)

#### Fresh start?

[Nigeria's first oil activists hope for wealthy future](#)

#### YAR'ADUA IN CHARGE

['Baba-go-slow'](#)[Nigeria's 'slow' election reform](#)[Open season on Obasanjo](#)[Q&A: The war against graft](#)[Profile: President Umaru Yar'Adua](#)

#### PERSONAL STORIES

[Traditional boxing](#)[Abuja repairmen](#)[A barber's life](#)[Roadside chef](#)

#### BACKGROUND

[Obasanjo's legacy](#)[Optimism over war on poverty](#)[Bakassi plan stirs tension](#)[Facts and figures](#)[Timeline](#)[Country profile](#)

#### FROM OTHER NEWS SITES

[Telegraph](#) Army takes over Nigerian city - 6 hrs ago[The Scotsman](#) Hundreds die as Christians and Muslims clash over poll - 8 hrs ago[Telegraph](#) Nigerian army takes over city hit by Muslim-Christian clashes - 9 hrs ago[Channel 4 News](#) Death toll in Nigeria rises - 12 hrs ago[ABC Online](#) Nigerian army takes over riot city - 13 hrs ago[About these results](#)

#### TOP AFRICA STORIES

which is perceived in the state as a predominantly Muslim party.

Jos has seen repeated bouts of inter-communal violence, with more than 1,000 killed during riots in 2001.

The real trigger for the violence is usually competition for resources, our correspondent says.

And in Nigeria political office is perhaps the most powerful resource of all as it gives the holder access to some of country's huge oil revenues.

Nigerian city tense after riots  
[Pirates 'to release Ukraine ship'](#)  
[Row over tanker held in Nigeria](#)

 | [News feeds](#)

#### MOST POPULAR STORIES NOW

[E-MAILED](#) [READ](#) [WATCHED/LISTENED](#)

[Britons 'saving money with sex'](#)  
[Empty planes leave Bangkok crisis](#)  
[Mumbai state head offers to quit](#)  
[Ryanair in new Aer Lingus offer](#)  
[UK 'closer' to adopting the euro](#)

Bookmark with:

[What are these?](#)

[Delicious](#)

[Digg](#)

[reddit](#)

[Facebook](#)

[StumbleUpon](#)

 [E-mail this to a friend](#)

 [Printable version](#)

#### FEATURES, VIEWS, ANALYSIS



##### [In pictures](#)

[A day in the life of Lesotho's HIV poster-boy](#)



##### [Border closure](#)

[Glimpse of life in North Korea slips out of view](#)



##### [Property ladder](#)

[US foreclosure sales help buyers find bargain](#)

[SKIP TO TOP](#)

#### PRODUCTS & SERVICES

[E-mail news](#)

[Mobiles](#)

[Alerts](#)

[News feeds](#)

[Podcasts](#)

**BBC** © MMVIII

The BBC is not responsible for the content of external internet sites.

[News Sources](#)  
[About BBC News](#)

[BBC Help](#)  
[Accessibility Help](#)  
[Jobs](#)  
[Advertise With Us](#)

[About the BBC](#)  
[Contact Us](#)  
[Terms of Use](#)  
[Privacy & Cookies](#)