

# 20 feared dead in Taraba political violence

By Fedelis Mac-Leva, *Jalingo*

**T**wenty people are feared dead in Lau local government area of Taraba state sequel to a violent crisis over eth chairmanship of the council on Sunday.

Several others injured in the crisis are currently receiving treatment at the Federal Medical Centre in Jalingo.

The crisis was said to have erupted when the supporters of the former deputy chairman of the council Alhaji Lawal Audo Lau allegedly prevented the care-taker chairman of the council, Mr. Yunana Kinkan from assuming office.

Loyalists of Kinkan were said to have resisted the move, leading to the eruption of violence in which dangerous weapons were used.

The public relations officer of the Taraba state police command, Mr. Firaji Ataji who confirmed the incident to journalists, however denied any loss of lives in the crisis.

He said the police were still investigating the crisis, adding that no arrest has been made yet.

When *Daily Trust* visited the federal medical centre in Jalingo many of the those wounded in the crisis were seen on their sick beds receiving treatment.

Meanwhile, the state deputy governor, Arimiyau Dauda Abubakar has visited Lau and appealed for calm, describing the crisis as unfortunate.