

Tuesday, Sep 28th | Last update 05:00:00 AM GMT | **Headlines:** Firewood seller in court over murder[HOME](#)[NEWS](#)[BUSINESS](#)[CITY NEWS](#)[SPORTS](#)[COLUMNS](#)[OTHER SECTIONS](#)[EMAIL](#)[OUR PAPERS](#)YOU ARE HERE:: [NEWS](#) ▶ 2 DIE IN CRASH AS VILLAGERS SCRAMBLE FOR DEAD COWS

2 die in crash as villagers scramble for dead cows

Tuesday, 28 September 2010 00:00

Hir Joseph, Lafia



Tiv villagers at Orpuugh in Giza Development Area of Nasarawa State yesterday clashed with policemen over dead cows after an early morning accident in which two people were killed.

The accident occurred at about 5:30am at a sharp bend at Orpuugh village along the Lafia-Makurdi Road when a trailer driver lost control of the vehicle due to over speeding. The trailer which was conveying cattle to a market in Port-Harcourt veered off the road and landed in a swamp. Two motor boys on the trailer died instantly while the driver and other passengers sustained injuries.

Witnesses said 20 cows died in the accident. The trailer carries a Yobe State registration number XA 450 PKM. It was travelling from Maiduguri in Borno State.

Villagers who arrived at the scene of the accident went rather for the dead cows to help themselves with free meat. Policemen from a police post in Kadarko, a nearby town, were there on time to rush the two corpses and the injured persons to a hospital in Lafia.

The police stationed two men there to stop the villagers from looting, but they were overpowered when many villagers poured in with knives and machetes, demanding to get some free meat.

The two policemen resigned to maintaining orderliness while the villagers tore at the dead cows, yelling at one another for space. The two policemen, a corporal and a constable, one of them carrying a rifle, at a point tried to take some meat too. A free for all later ensued, leaving some people bleeding.

Some of the people came from other villages with pick-up vans, and were able to move complete cows with them. State police commissioner Mr. Ephraim Amakulor said the DPO in that area had not informed him. The head of the village, Akoom Bee, was said to be away at the time, but concerned elders expressed displeasure with the attitude of the villagers.

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