

## UNABATED VIOLENCE IN JOS

# 91 Killed In 10 Days

By Andrew Agbese, Jos and Ismail Adebayo

**A**t least 91 persons have been killed in Plateau State in the last 10 days in unabated attacks. This is in addition to some 14 persons who have confirmed killed in Gwanfil village of Jos South Local Government Area last Friday night. The killers in the fresh attack are yet to be identified. In the last two years over 1,000 persons have been killed in Plateau State in ethno-religious violence.

Last Friday's attackers were said to have gone to Gwanfil village at about 8:00pm, less than 24 hours after similar killings in two villages in neighbouring Barkin Ladi Local Government Area. Not less than 12 persons were killed in that attack.

Those killed last Friday night include a pregnant woman, seven adult males, including an aged man of about 70, four children, including one who was about

- Fresh Attack Claims 14 Lives
- NSA Azazi, General Useni: Governor Jang Doesn't Listen to Advice

### DEATH TOLL

DATE	CASUALTY FIGURES
Monday, 29th August, 2011	12
Wednesday, 31st August, 2011	42
Sunday, 4th September, 2011	11
Thursday, 8th September, 2011	12
Friday, 9th September, 2011	14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>91</b>

two-year-old, and nine women, including a 60-year-old. Another man identified as Malam Boy who sustained deep cuts later died at the hospital he was rushed to.

The Special Adviser to the Plateau State Governor on Media

and Publicity, Ayuba Dangwong, while speaking with newsmen in Gwanfil village, described the attack as unfortunate, regretting that it was becoming like a daily occurrence.

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Governor Jonah Jang of Plateau State

**NLC Grounds  
Kano, Kaduna,  
Yobe Tomorrow** Pg 3

**Police Bar Aminu, Boni,  
Hong, Others From  
Anti-Nyako Meeting** Pg 3

Burkina Faso; President John Atta Mills of Ghana; President Alassan Ouattara and the President ECOWAS Commission, Ambassador Victor Gbeho at the Summit of the Economic Community of West African States at the Presidential Wing, Nnamdi Azikiwe Airport, Abuja ...yesterday.  
Pic: Felix Onigbinde

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He, however, assured that the Plateau State government will do everything possible to put an end to these kinds of attacks.

One of the women who witnessed the attack, Mrs Kachollom Bulus, said the ~~attackers~~ came early Friday evening when people were yet to go to bed, adding that they would have been repelled if security men were on ground.

The victims were given mass burial Saturday morning.

### BLAME JANG FOR CRISIS IN JOS- GEN USEINI

The chairman of Arewa Consultative Forum [ACF], LT. General Jeremiah Useni has attributed the failure of Plateau state government to quash the renewed violence in Jos in which several people including children have lost their lives to the refusal of the state governor, Jonah Jang to hand over the mantle of leadership of the state to his deputy while leaving the country.

General Useni re-echoed what the National Security Adviser (NSA), General Andrew Azazi (rtd), said in a television interview in Lagos last Friday.

General Azazi, in a Channels Television interview in Lagos claimed that Governor Jang ignored security advice on the situation in Plateau State, adding that he expected the governor to act as a leader when it comes to the security situation on the state, rather than shift blame.

In an interview with Sunday Trust, General Useni described the attitude of the governor as unfortunate, remarking that he was worried that the

state government could not respond appropriately to the Jos sectarian violence that broke out on August 29, 2011. He said government didn't respond appropriately because the deputy governor, who would have acted in the absence of the governor, would not do anything than to watch helplessly because he did not hand over power to him.

General Useni explained further that: "I understand that the governor has been away and the deputy governor has been quiet. I understand that the mantle of leadership was not handed over to the deputy governor, so he cannot say anything. This is a very unfortunate situation. I wonder why the governor would travel and not handover to anybody."

The retired general, while speaking to Sunday Trust on the Jos violence said if the governor were around, his presence would have helped in the effort to restore peace in the troubled state. "Yes, he would have made some pronouncements that would have calmed the situation. The governor would have spoken to the people to remain calm, assuring them that government was doing something. It is like when there is a fight in the family and the head of the family goes to sleep. Is there any reason why throughout the crisis period we had no governor on ground?"

He also bemoaned the governor for not listening to the advice given to him by elders in the state on how peace could be restored.

General Useni remarked thus: "I want to say there is no General in this state that has not given one or two advice individually, apart from the collective advice

we give. It is a case of taking the horse to the river but you cannot force the horse to drink."

### MAN CAUGHT IN NIGHT RAID

A man ~~identified~~ as Mohammed Abdullahi has been caught by men of the Special Task Force (STF) in Plateau state, for allegedly trying to, along with some men, attack Rop village in Barkin Ladi local government Area of the state.

The spokesman of the STF, Captain Charles Ekeocha, while parading the suspect, said he was apprehended after a group of about 30 men dressed in black tried to attack the village, but were spotted by the military men who had one of their camps near the village.

He said when the assailants were repelled by the soldiers and they ran away, one of them was sighted walking along the road with a bag.

Captain Ekeocha said his men then accosted the man and when his bag was searched, a locally made pistol, five rounds of ammunition and a knife were found.

The STF spokesman used the opportunity to counter insinuations that soldiers are involved in the attacks on villages in Plateau State.

He said soldiers do not stand to gain anything by attacking villages hence will not do such a thing, and stressed that the STF wants to make it clear that it does not want to be involved in politics.

Captain Ekeocha also said soldiers had been withdrawn from the remaining villages in Barkin Ladi LG, since the people say they did not want them there.