

# Yakowa's election

ballot stuffing, electoral violence, lack of election, among others.

Reacting to the judgment, the CPC's governorship candidate said that following the pattern of presentation, it was clear that the tribunal had compromised and erred, alleging that the judgment was decided ahead of yesterday.

"Without delay, we will not allow this miscarriage of justice to continue unabated. We will continue to pursue the case. Our lawyers are prepared and by the grace of God, the victory will come back to us," Saeed said.

Saeed advised CPC supporters to continue to be law abiding, urging them to conduct themselves in the most mature manner, assuring that the CPC would reclaim its mandate.

In his own reaction, Governor Yakowa thanked all the party members and the people

of the state for their support and patience, enjoining them not to relent in their efforts towards taking the state to a greater height.

Yakowa also pleaded with the residents of the state to continue to live in peace with one another, calling on the CPC candidate to come and join hands with him in developing the state.

While PDP chairman in the state, Ya'u Usman, expressed delight over the judgment, CPC's Ahmad Yaro Coca-Cola alleged that the PDP bought the victory, assuring that the CPC would fight on.

Meanwhile, official activities in state were yesterday brought to standstill as most commissioners, political appointees, party chieftains, permanent secretaries and local government caretaker chairmen moved to the court premises and later to the Government House to celebrate

the judgment.

Though there was no report of violence in any part of the state, security was however tightened across the state. Military check points adopted new method of thorough searching of vehicles while armed soldiers and mobile police stationed at strategic places, while police vans were going round the city centre with sirens. This was a part of the armoured police and military tankers that were feasible at the court entrance and other locations.

The state's Commissioner of Police, Ballah M. Nasarawa, took charge of all security activities. Initially, journalists were barred from entering the court premises just as some dignitaries, including the court's staff, were stopped at the gate. However, the security measures were later relaxed, which allowed journalists access into the court.

## Independence'

dent Shehu Shagari, Chief Olusegun Obasanjo, the late President Umaru Yar'Adua and President Goodluck Jonathan, none of them actually prepared for the position, but they were conscripted into it," he said.

He also maintained that unless there is a mechanism to checkmate tribal and ethnic consciousness, the nation would continue to witness crises and disunity.

He said countries like Liberia, Rwanda and Zambia that were once assisted by Nigeria to come out of the woods had since resolved their identity problems and socio economic challenges.

According to him, the security challenges being posed by the Boko Haram sect will continue until the country identifies the politicians behind them.

Kukah, who also described "the present legal books" inherited from the military as

defective to address the Nigeria question, however, urged Nigerians to be patient with their leaders and the government to tolerate the opposition.

## Ten killed in Yobe auto crash

From Hamisu Kabir Matazu, Damaturu

**BARELY** one week after 13 people died in a crash along the Damaturu-Potiskum road, ten people were killed and 15 others injured in another accident that occurred yesterday along the Fika road at Nahuta area, about two kilometers from Potiskum.

The incident, which occurred around 5pm, involved one Daf truck with registration number XA 477 FKY, a 14 seater bus with registration number XB 485 KTG, a 504 station wagon car with registration number AJ 644 NSR and a tricycle.

Witnesses said the incident occurred when the

truck's driver was trying to avoid crushing the tricycle's rider who crossed recklessly having rammed into the 14-seater bus and the 504 station wagon coming from Fika.

Confirming the incident, the unit commander of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) Maigari Ali said the bodies of the ten victims had been deposited at the morgue of the General Hospital, Potiskum where the injured were also being treated.

Ali, who blamed the crash on what he called the dangerous overtaking by the tricycle's rider who according to him died on the spot, said, "Eight people died on the spot, two died in the hospital."

## 2 killed, 10 injured in motor park violence in Edo

From Vincent Egunyanga, Benin

**TWO** people were killed and ten others injured, while property worth millions of naira were destroyed in Benin City yesterday as rival touts clashed over collection of revenue from motor parks.

It was gathered that the clash was due to the tussle over the control of motor parks by members of the Drivers' Welfare Scheme (DWS) and the revenue collectors led by one Tony Kabaka against members of the Road Transport Employers' Association of Nigeria (RTEAN).

Business activities in the

popular New Benin Market and its environs were paralyzed as traders in the areas closed shops scampering for safety as there were sporadic gunshots despite the heavy presence of security operatives.

The crisis was said to have ensued when RTEAN members, who went to motor parks to collect dues from their members, were resisted by Tony Kabaka and other leaders of the DWS.

Kabaka told newsmen that RTEAN had been banned from collecting revenues in the state, saying it was a surprise to see its members har-

ass drivers for dues Thursday morning.

Similarly, DWS President Henry Okaka said his members were protesting the return of RTEAN to motor-parks in Benin City.

Reacting, RTEAN Publicity Secretary Ben Okpokunu said, "The claim that we invaded motor-park is untrue. If we decide to retaliate this attack on our men, there would be bloodbath in Benin."

More soldiers and policemen were later deployed to the scene, while leaders of both parties were invited to the New Benin Police Station for questioning.