

4 killed in renewed farmers/herders feud in Nasarawa

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Barley a week after Governor Umaru Tanko Al-Makura closed the refugee camps in the southern parts of Nasarawa State, where thousands of displaced persons have been camping for months due to violent clashes between ethnic groups at the Nasarawa/Benue states border settlements, hostilities broke out Wednesday claiming four lives.

It was gathered that Tiv peasants and Fulani nomads, two of the ethnic groups that have been fighting for some months now, renewed their feud in the early hours of Wednesday. Fleeing members of Shatse, a community under Kadarko Ward of Keana Local Government Area, reported that their village was attacked by over 50 armed persons, who stormed the area at about 5am, killing three women, and one man. The witnesses said one of the women was shot in the stomach.

“The attackers stormed the village when we were still in bed, we were taken by surprise. They shot indiscriminately and burnt down houses. Right now, about 10 people are still missing”, a witness said.

Daily Trust further learnt that the corpses of the deceased persons were recovered by the police, who arrived the village hours after the attack.

The Assistant Commissioner of Police in charge of Nasarawa-South, ACP Musa Sammy confirmed the incident, saying, “The DPO at Kadarko called me and reported the incident. The police have since sent reinforcement to return normalcy to the village”.

He said the Tivs reported the incident, just as Fulani nomads also reported the loss of about 500 cows.

Al-Makura had about a week ago, addressed a meeting of ethnic groups locked in violent clashes in the state with a view to restoring peace to the areas.

Both Tiv and Fulani leaders have repeatedly called on Governor Gabriel Suswam of Benue State and his Nasarawa counterpart, Al-Makura, to issue a white paper on the implementation of the report on the incessant Tiv/Fulani crisis at the border communities.