Fresh religious crisis claims 10 in Taraba

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About 10 people are feared killed in a religious crisis in Ibbi town, headquarters of Ibbi Local Government Area of Taraba State. Reports from the area said the crisis started when one Ibrahim Uba, a staff of the Nigeria Civil Defense and Security Corps (NSCDC) was killed by unknown gunmen, forcing hoodlums to unleash mayhem on innocent people in the area.

Daily Trust gathered that several residential and commercial buildings were set ablaze while a curfew was imposed by the state government. Spokesman of Taraba Police Command, DSP Joseph Kwaji, confirmed the incident and said the police and the army have been deployed to the area to contain the situation.

DSP Kwaji told Daily Trust that about 7 persons were killed, while many residential buildings were burnt. He also disclosed that a family of six were killed when unknown gunmen invaded a fishing camp at Sarkin Noma village in Dampar district of Ibbi local Government. He added that five other persons were seriously injured and were admitted at a hospital in Dampar town, but no arrest was made.

Both Ibbi and Wukari towns located few kilometres apart had recorded more than 10 religious and communal conflicts in which hundreds were killed in the last few years.