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Thugs invade Abaji chairman's residence

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah | Publish Date: Mar 15 2016 5:00AM

...as APC accuses PDP of killing party member

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Police inspect the level of destruction at Abaji Area Council Chairman's country home in Gau, where violence between PDP and APC supporters left one dead.

Another clash broke out on Saturday at Gau, in Abaji Area Council, when political thugs invaded the private residence of the area council chairman, Alhaji Yahaya Garba Gau, where they destroyed property worth millions of naira.

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This was coming a day after an APC member was attacked last Friday at Yaba village, in the same area council.



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The thugs pulled down the gate of the chairman's house where they vandalised three vehicles, burnt four motorcycles and destroyed burglary proofs of seven units of flats inside the compound.

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) ward chairman in the area, Alhaji Adamu Umar, alleged that some supporters of the APC invaded the compound at about 2:15pm while on campaign to the community.

He alleged that the APC supporters, who came in their hundreds to the community, acted in a violent manner, before they proceeded to the chairman's house to cause havoc.

"To my greatest surprise, none of the PDP members or supporters confronted them. Yet I saw fire burning at the gate of the chairman's house, while people were running helter-skelter. On arrival at the house, I now discovered that property was destroyed inside it," he alleged.

But the secretary of APC in the council, Yunusa Abubakar, said trouble started when they arrived at Gawa and were going to pay homage to the village head of the community. He said some members of the PDP in the area blocked the road to prevent them from passing. He said it was in order to avoid trouble that they decided to turn back and go to the market square where they all converged and chieftains of APC addressed the gathering.

"So we were at the market square when we started hearing gunshots from the chairman's house. Meanwhile, some PDP members were hurling stones at us and they hit one of our members on the chest. Unfortunately, he died while being taken to hospital at Gawa-Babangida village," he said.

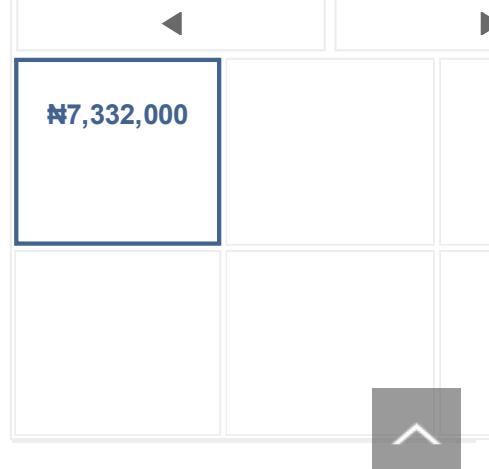
He said it was then that their supporters reacted and invaded the chairman's house to engage the thugs inside.

The APC secretary added that a gun was forcefully retrieved from one of the PDP thugs in the chairman's house and later handed over to the Divisional Police Officer in Abaji.

When contacted, the Abaji DPO, CSP David Kolo, confirmed the incident, saying investigation was still ongoing. He said a gun recovered from one of the political thugs had been handed over to the police commissioner.



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