Ethnic clash claims 7 lives in Nasarawa

From Umar Muhammed, Lafia

A land dispute between Gbagyi and Bassa ethnic groups in Kudu village of Toto, the headquarters of Toto LGA of Nasarawa State, has left seven people dead.

Daily Trust learnt that the crisis broke out when some members of the Bassa ethnic group allegedly stormed a community where Gbagyi

people had settled to carry out farming activities.

A witness who was at the scene of the incident told our correspondent that many people sustained injuries, while houses and farm produce worth millions of naira were destroyed during the clash.

However, Nasarawa State Governor Abdullahi Sule said the government has waded into the security breaches in Toto Local Government Area of the state.

The governor, disclosed this while presiding over an emergency executive council meeting at the government house, Lafia, yesterday.

According to him, even though the matter was not part of the agenda for the meeting, it became imperative to bring it up before the executive council owing to the fact that some

lives were lost during the incursion.

Sule, however, announced plans to convene a meeting involving Gbagyi, Egbirra and Bassa communities to address the overriding distrust and perceived acrimony existing between them.

"Security agencies have already been drafted to the area so that we will be able to get to the bottom of it," he said.