Committee Indicts Federal Lawmakers In Donga Killings

FROM CHARLES AKPEJI, JALINGO

TWO serving members of the National Assembly, representing Taraba South, have been indicted by a high-level committee investigating the Nyivu communal crisis that led to the destruction of lives and properties in Donga local government area of the state.

The two members, according to the committee chairman, Alhaji Hassan Adamu, are the members representing Ibi/ Wukari Federal Constituency, Joel Danlami Ikenya and the member representing Takum, Ussa and Dong Federal Constituency, Emmanuel Bwacha.

The two men had clashed over, who the Senatorial seat for the area was, before the Independent National Electoral Commission pronounced Ikenya the victor.

Adamu, who spoke to newsmen after the presentation of the committee's finding to the state Deputy Governor, Alhaji Armayau Dauda Abubakar, disclosed that the two politician's ambition polarised the community

The first casualty of the bloody crisis, according to Adamu, was celebrating the perceived victory of Emmanuel Bwacha when he was attacked by the opponent.

"Actually, we did not find any incriminating evidences to track down Bwacha as the main cause of the crises," he said. "We however discovered that on the day of the crisis, the chap that was killed was celebrating the victory of

TARABA

Bwacha when he (Bwacha) was declared as the winner of the primary."

Southern Taraba, which is the mainstay of the state's economy, has of recent been engulfed in several communal clashes, which has led to the destruction of lives and properties worth millions of naira. Another recent crisis is the one between the Tiv and Kuteb communities in Takum, over a disputed piece of land. U

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FG Expends N50b On Teaching Hospitals

FROM ABIODUN FAGBEMI ILORIN

THE federal government has expended a sum of N50 billion to achieve its aim on prompt standardisation of medical equipment for Nigerian Teaching Hospitals, President Olusegun Obasanjo has said.

Speaking at the commissioning of the permanent site of the University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital (UITH) at the weekend, Obasanjo said the modest achievement in the field of health was due to the commitment of his administration to reforms towards

KWARA

comprehensive health serv-

"This government has made substantial investment into the Federal Government/VAMED equipment modernisation project in the country's teaching hospitals," he said.

Eight of the University Teaching Hospitals have attained five-star status. They are: Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria; University College Hospital, Ibadan; University of Maiduguri; University of Nigeria, Enugu and of recent, the University of Lagos, Idi-Araba.

"Today, the UITH has

joined the league of other five star teaching hospitals in the country, while that of the Jos University Teaching Hospital, Jos was commissioned on May 24, 2007, he said.

He however advised the hospitals' management to improve on their internally generated revenue (IGR) capacity, towards effective management of the equipment.

Meanwhile, Obasanjo has condemned the on going strike of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU), describing the university lecturers as ungrateful to his administration.

The President said the academic community was poorly remunerated before the commencement of his administration. He said ASUU members were abusing his intervention rather than being appreciated.

He also foreclosed the recall of sacked lecturers at the University of Ilorin.

"Lecturers, who were supposed to be model to you were disturbing you in your examinations. That was the report that came to me, in the case of your sacked teachers. I said that people like that would never be University teachers in Nigeria.



President Nigeria British Chamber of Commerce (NBCC), Senator Dipo Odunjinrin (middle); the immediate Past President and Patron, Mrs M.R.A. Adeleke and Council Member, Adedapo Adelegan at the media briefing on London "Opportunity Nigeria investment Conference" in Lagos... at the weekend.

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