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## Four Feared Killed As Kogi Youths Protest Varsity's Relocation

From Ralph Omololu Agbana, Lokoja

FOUR people, mainly youths, have been reportedly killed as the violence, which engulfed the Okun-Yoruba speaking area of Kogi State since Wednesday rages.

The riot had spread from Kabba to Ayetoro-Gbede in Ijumu and to Mopamuro Council by yesterday. As a result, delegates to today's rerun senatorial and House of Representatives primaries

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# Boko Haram Gunmen Kill ANPP Governorship Candidate, Six Others

From Isa Abdulalami (Jos) and Njadvara Musa (Maiduguri)

It was another cruel disregard for human life yesterday when five suspected Boko Haram gunmen killed the Borno State All Nigeria People's Party (ANPP) governorship candidate Alhaji

Modu Fannami Gubio and six others at the same spot.

Also murdered along with Gubio who was the Finance Commissioner were two policemen and four other persons at his father's residence in Lawan Bukar Ward of Maiduguri, the state capital. The gunmen fired several

shots at Gubio, while he alighting from an un-marked Sports Unity Vehicle (SUV) at about 2.20 pm at his father's residence.

Police Commissioner Mohammed Ababakar said: "It was about 2 pm this afternoon that a gang of armed Boko Haram members

attacked and killed seven people at the residence of the father of the gubernatorial candidate in Lawan Bukar. The gunmen fired at Modu Gubio while he was alighting from his vehicle. As he was gunned down along with the

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# Four Feared Killed As Youths Protest Varsity's Relocation

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of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in Lokoja and Kabba could not travel and had to turn back. Windscreens of buses conveying some delegates identified to be supporters of a senatorial aspirant loyal to Governor Ibrahim Idris were smashed and the occupants wounded.

The youths, led by students' union leaders are protesting alleged relocation of the newly approved Federal University of Technology from Kabba, its original location to Lokoja, the state capital. By Governor Idris for the third day running, the rampaging youths, in their hundreds yesterday blocked federal roads linking Kabba-Okene, Kabba-Ekiti as well as Kabba-Ilorin roads with burn fires. Several vehicles were set ablaze, with those marked with Kogi State government registration numbers as special targets.

Drivers of Dangote trailers conveying cements from the Obajana Cement Factory meant for delivery to several parts of the state were said to have been forced to station their vehicles to cross the roads, thereby mak-

ing passage impossible for other road users. singing choruses, such as "No University, no road", the youths accused Governor Idris of vendetta against the Yoruba and called for the intervention of President Goodluck Jonathan "before Kogi turns into another Jos."

It took the intervention of anti-riots policemen who cleared parts of the debris for motorists to have a passage around 3pm. But at about 5pm, more road blockages emerged in Ayetoro-Gbede, Ifjumu Local Council. One of such blockages was mounted at the frontage of the residence of Gen. David Jemibewon, with the youths chanting anti-Idris slogans and carrying placards with the inscription: "Bring back our university". The riots left several travellers stranded for hours, while those who could no longer bear the long wait, decided to turn back. The youths distributed bags of sachets of 'pure water' to the stranded travelers just as they appealed to them to bear the struggle with them as they were fighting for the future.

Trouble started when a detachment of mobile police-

men arrived at the scene in Kabba town, where the riot was more rampant, and began to shoot into the air.

The youths were said to have replied by throwing stones at the police and in the melee, three persons were said to have been hit by stray bullets, while 13 others, including two policemen were seriously injured and are said to be on danger list. Reports also have it that the PDP secretariat in Kabba had been razed in a transfer of aggression.

Speaker of the House of Assembly, Chief Clarence Olafemi was also said to have written to the state police SIB, over threats to burn down his building and other properties owned by Okun people in Idris government for failure to stop the relocation. The Kogi State Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. Okasanmi Ajayi who confirmed that the situation was tense, assured that the security agents are doing everything possible to put the situation under control. He disclosed that the police commissioner, Mr. John Abakasanga has relocated to Kabba and that the team would soon bring the riot to an end.