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Sunday, July 24, 2011

## Five Killed In Fresh Plateau Clash



From Isa Abdulsalami, Jos

A VIOLENT clash at the Angwan Rukuba area of Jos North local government of Plateau State between Muslim and Christian youths has left no fewer than five persons dead with several others wounded.

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A Muslim, named Dahiru Musa, was contacted by a person from Angwan Rukuba area to help fix a door. Musa was murdered as he tried to do the job and was allegedly buried at the weekend.

Worried about the deceased's disappearance, his relations gathered information that he had been murdered by Christian youths in Angwan Rukuba.

Angwan Rukuba had hitherto been a no-go area for Muslims. Musa may have taken the invitation for granted believing animosity and bad blood no longer existed.

With news of Musa's death, some youths mobilised and attacked Angwan Rukuba in retaliation.

The casualty figure could have been greater but for the timely intervention of soldiers of the Special Task Force (STF).

Contacted, STF spokesman, Captain Charles Ekeocha, said: "There was an allegation by the Muslim community in Nasarawa Gwom area of Jos North that one Dahiru Musa, a key repairer, was



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allegedly murdered at Angwan Rukuba by suspected Christian youths in the area.

"It was during the day. The timing was not actually known. It was also alleged that the corpse of Musa was buried behind a poultry farm in Angwan Rukuba community.

"The same Musa was contacted by the yet-to-be identified suspect from Dogon Dutse of Jos North to help him repair his doors.

"The incident was reported to the police at Nasarawa Gwom Police Station by Musa's relations. So, while the police was trying to ascertain the alleged murder, some Muslim youths around the area mobilised themselves and started attacking Christians plying through the community.

"When the news got round, the Christian youths too mobilised and started attacking any suspected Muslim."

On casualties, Ekeocha said: "The reprisal attacks left five people dead and about 12 others severely injured and those injured are in the hospital. Those who were killed, for now, cannot be identified. It was the police who took them to the hospital. We just helped them to remove the corpses."

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