News

Fresh communal clash claims lives in Plateau

From Isa Abdulsalami, Jos

THERE may be no end yet to the orgy of violence in Plateau State, as some people were feared killed in a fresh communal crisis on Tuesday in Wadata community in Wase Council of the state.

A source said the crisis, which pitted the Tarok and Fulani-speaking residents in the community against each other, began after a decom-

posing corpse was discovered in a bush, leading to reprisal attacks.

Also, one Nuru Shehu who spoke to *The Guardian* confirmed the incident, saying no fewer than 22 people were killed.

"I am from there. I can confirm to you that the casualty was heavy. The casualty figure given as 20 is a child's play," he said.

It was gathered that

although the incident happened on Tuesday night, the rugged terrain of the area made it difficult to get detailed information on the clash.

The security agencies were yet to confirm the incident by the time of filing this report yesterday, but the Plateau State Commissioner of Police, Mr. Chris Olakpe, merely said that he had dispatched his men there but

was yet to confirm casualty figures and other details.

Also, spokesman of the Special Task Force (STF), Captain Mustapha Salisu, said that he was not yet in a position to confirm if there was any killing.

"I have heard that there was an incident around Wase and I have not found out what exactly happened," Salisu said while promising to get back to journalists.

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