

Three Die In Niger PDP Senatorial Primaries Crisis

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Three people have been reported dead in Niger State as results of last Saturday's Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) primaries for the three senatorial seats were released amidst allegations of rigging in parts of the state.

The election, scheduled for Kontagora was shifted to Wushishi as last minute arrangements to rig out those who were branded opposition ahead of the 2007 general elections.

Besides the re-scheduling of the venue for the elections, the crisis that

trailed the election resulted from the fallout between Governor Abdulkadir Kure and the Vice Chairman of PDP (North Central), Abubakar Magaji, and some other members of the party in the state.

Magaji, who was said to have featured prominently in 1999 and Kure's re-election in 2003, is now leading one out of the three factions of the PDP in the state having fielded candidates in the primary elections.

While Kure is said to be leaving nothing to chances in ensuring that his plans ahead of the 2007 general elections succeed, Magaji is mobilising his supporters and joining

forces with other factions to scuttle Kure's plans.

He (Kure) is said to be using all available human and material resources at his disposal to quash any opposition to his set target.

Meanwhile, it was a sad ending for the camp of Kure's wife, Zaynab Kure, as she lost three of her supporters in a ghastly motor accident shortly after the election when the news of her victory broke.

Two of the supporters were said to have died on the spot when the vehicles they were travelling in collided with another on her convoy en route Minna, while the other, a female was said to have died at the hospital as a result of severe injuries sustained from the accident.