

# Five People Die In Hadejia Violence

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Violence has broken out in Hadejia, the largest town in Jigawa State, leaving no fewer than five people killed. But the police authorities in the state have denied the report, saying no life was lost.

The crisis, which was between the supporters of Deputy Governor Ibrahim Hassan Hadejia, who contested for the Senate seat under the banner of the All Nigeria People Party (ANPP) and those of Abdulazeez Usman Turabo of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), began last Saturday when supporters of PDP were alleged to have attacked the deputy governor's convoy on their way to Kirikasamma and Birniwa to

monitor election. PDP supporters were said to have smashed two cars in the convoy, a situation which did not go down well with ANPP supporters, which prompted them to revenge.

It was gathered that the house of a former local government chairman, who led PDP members, that of his father, Alhaji Muhammad Daguro, and that of Alhaji Abdulazeez Usman located within Hadejia town were burnt to ashes.

Similarly, about eight houses and a filling station were set ablaze. The ensuing pandemonium forced businesses to close down, while residents ran for cover to escape being

caught in the crossfire of the feuding parties.

Daily Independent gathered that many people with their families have fled Hadejia to neighbouring local governments of Mallam-Madori, Auyo Kaugama, among others, where there is relative peace. By the time of filing this report, property worth millions of naira were said to have been destroyed in the orgy of violence.

When contacted on phone, the spokesman of the Jigawa State Police Command, ASP Abdu Jinjiri, confirmed the incident, but said no life was lost. He pointed out that the report they received from the divisional police officer (DPO), Hadejia, did not indicate there were casualties. He confirmed, however, that

hoodlums were brought from Kano State to Jigawa State to foment trouble in Hadejia.

Jinjiri revealed that an emergency security meeting between the Commissioner of Police, Alhaji Saleh Shehu Ningi; the Emir of Hadejia, Alhaji Adamu Abubakar Maje, security agents and prominent people in the area was held at the palace of the emir, where a solution to the unrest was worked out. He added that normalcy had returned to the town, as people are now going about their normal businesses, while 18 people have been arrested so far across the state and charged with stealing ballot boxes and fomenting trouble. He said they would be charged to court.