

News

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Insecurity: Group urges FG to sack all service chiefs

By Harris-Okon Emmanuel
Correspondent, Warri

DISTURBED by the spate of bombings and killings in the northern part of the country by Boko Haram, a group, Forum for Justice and Human Rights Defense (FJHD) has called for the sacking of all service chiefs.

The group said the service chiefs lack the prescription to checkmate the "worsening state of anarchy presently ravaging northern Nigeria."

Besides, it commended the Federal Government for sacking of the National Security Adviser, General Patrick Owoye Azazi and the Minister of Defence, Haliru Mohammed Bello, over the state of insecurity in the country.

Speaking with our correspondent, National Coordinator of the group, Oghenebor Ikimi, stated that the duo were incompetent to handle the surge of the Islamist group, Boko Haram.

NANS condemns Police, BIR officials

10 feared dead as Benue, Ebonyi boundary communities clash

By Godwin Akor,
Correspondent, Makurdi

NO FEWER than 10 persons have been killed in a renewed fight between the border communities of Agila in Ado local government area of Benue State and Ngbor in Ebonyi State.

The perennial land dispute between these two neighbouring communities has defied every attempt at resolving it.

Since it began about 15 years ago, over 100 people have been killed on both sides.

The latest fight started Tuesday morning with Ngbor community allegedly deploying mercenaries into Agila and

threatening to match to Igumale, Ado local government headquarters.

Eye witness told *Daily Independent* that at the Benue State end of the border, the renewed fighting has forced the inhabitants of Ai-Nedu clan in Agila to flee the battle area into Apa-Agila for safety.

According to him, farmers from Ai-Nedu community had gone to carry out their routine farming activities on Tuesday morning when they ran into an ambush of over 100 men who marched through Ogbilolo community in military camouflage with sophisticated weapons.

"The farmers fled on sight-

ing the men, but the mercenaries caught up with one Oche Adayi, a father of four and beheaded him", the eyewitness recalled.

From that point, it was gathered, they allegedly moved further, shooting sporadically and killing any living thing within the area.

"We cannot ascertain the number of the dead because many people are still missing; some are believed to have been trapped in the farms but I can say that not less 10 have been killed", the informant added.

He said up to Tuesday morning, they were still hearing sounds of gun shots coming

from the besieged community near the Community Secondary School, Agila, while people were still scampering for safety.

When contacted, Caretaker Committee Chairman for Ado local government, Bernard Otsepa, lamented the level of destruction his people have suffered within the period of repeated attacks.

"The Monday attack was just overwhelming; it is sad that despite efforts by the state government to ensure that this crisis was brought to an end, the people we gave land to farm have now resorted to killing our people, it is sad indeed", Otsepa remarked.

Banker's murder: Judge adjourns as accused slumps in court

By Temidayo Akinsuyi
Special Correspondent, Lagos

AKOLADE Arowolo, a youth pastor standing trial for allegedly killing his banker wife, Titilayo, on Tuesday collapsed inside the dock of a Lagos State High Court in Ikeja, where he is being tried.

The development forced the judge, Justice Lateefat Okunnu, to hurriedly halt the trial and adjourn the matter till Thursday.

Arowolo's counsel, Olarenwaju Ajanaku, had drawn the court's attention to the plight of the accused, asking for a short stand down of the matter to enable him administer his drugs.

The judge agreed to stand down the case, but later adjourned the matter when it was clear that Arowolo could not continue with the trial as a result of the pains he was experiencing.

Earlier, prosecution witness, Inspector Benson Ajie, had told the court that the accused, dur-

