

city would not be spared in the crackdown against criminality.

going to take security more seriously and anyone caught

position in Nigeria's education sector.

Kingdom and the Olu Of Warri among others.

Violent protest in Jos over killing of two Berom

By Onoja Audu

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THE KILLING of two people by unknown gunmen in Kuru, near Jos on Sunday night, sparked a violent protest by youths and women in Kuru neighborhood on Monday in Jos South Local government area of Plateau State.

The gunmen, who eyes witnesses said came in a white Hilux van, had on Sunday night shot and killed the two villagers, said to be relaxing in front of their house, and drove away.

It was learnt that while one of the deceased, identified as

Victor Davou, died on the spot, his friend, who was rushed to the Plateau Specialist Hospital, later died there.

Angered by the incident, the youths and women in the area, who openly accused security operatives of complicity in the killing on Monday, took to the streets in protest.

The youths, numbering over 1,000, blocked Kuru-Kaduna-Abuja road, forcing motorists to divert to other destinations.

The only bridge linking the community to other parts of Jos South LGA, was also torched by the protesters.

It took the quick intervention

of the combined team of men of the Special Task Force (STF) and policemen drafted to the scene, before normalcy could return.

Chairman of Jos South Local Government Area, Peter Vwang Dung, and Special Adviser to Governor Jonah Jang on Media and Publicity, Ayuba Pam, who confirmed the incident to *Daily Independent* on Monday, condemned the killing by the gunmen.

Both appealed to the security agents to ensure the protection of the lives of the citizens and advised the people to be vigilant.

Meanwhile, the state Com-

missioner of Police, Chris Olakpe, has appealed to residents particularly in Barkin Ladi and Riyom local government areas to ensure that peace reigns during the new year celebration.

At a stakeholders meeting with elders, religious and traditional leaders, youths of both LGAs held at the Police Officers Mess in Jos, the police boss particularly called on the people, especially the youths, to refrain from any acts of violence so as not to jeopardise their future, while urging the different ethnic nationalities to pray for lasting peace to return to the state.