

35 PEOPLE FEARED KILLED IN FRESH PLATEAU CRISIS

Posted on Thursday, March 21st, 2013

 Like  8 Tweet  +1 0



By Onoja Audu, Correspondent, Jos

No fewer than 35 persons were feared killed on Wednesday in Wase Local Government area of Plateau State in the wake of fresh clash between the Tarohs and Fulani herdsmen.

The fresh hostilities followed the killing earlier on Sunday of two Tarok men who were traveling from Langtang North Local Government area to Kardako in the neighbouring Wase Local Government by suspected Fulani herdsmen.

The scene of the fresh hostilities is about 250 kilometres from Jos, the state capital.

It would be recalled that the two tribes had had bitter clashes in the past in the southern part of Plateau State which led to the death of hundreds of villagers on both sides.

Daily Independent gathered from the scene of the fresh hostilities on Wednesday afternoon that the renewed crisis broke out in the early hours of the day at about 1.45 a.m. when some militant youths invaded Fili Mavou, the country home of the state Commissioner for Water Resources, Mallam Idi Waziri, burning down his house and 15 others.

It was also gathered that the youths were on a revenge mission following the discovery of two corpses in Kardako on Monday.

Tension enveloped the entire local government area since Monday's discovery of the corpses of the two men shot dead by unknown gunmen.

According to a source who demanded anonymity, the Tarok in Dapna, Dam and Fenu, all in Wase council area, have been under attack by unknown gunmen suspected to be sponsored by the Fulani almost on daily basis since this year.

Confirming the incident, Special Military Task Force on Jos crisis (STF) in a statement by its media officer, Salisu Mustapaha, said "in the early hours of Wednesday, at about 04.30 a.m., our troops received a distress call from some members of Mavo community in Wase Local Government area about an attack by unknown gunmen who attempted to overrun the community."

According to him, the STF personnel deployed around the area swiftly moved to the scene of the incident and repelled the attackers.

He disclosed that three of the suspected attackers were arrested and are currently undergoing investigation, assuring that efforts are ongoing to apprehend other culprits.

According to the STF spokesman, the situation has been brought under control by troops while normalcy has returned to the besieged community.

He added that Soldiers of the STF were still in the area "conducting robust patrol to ensure no further attack on innocent people of the local government."

The statement added: "STF wishes to use this opportunity to warn these criminal elements who are continuously trying to instigate communal strife in Plateau State to desist from this ungodly act."

Mustapha warned the general public on the dangers of taking laws into their hands, cautioning that any act of lawlessness will not be

tolerated by the security agencies.

Meanwhile, it was further gathered that security meeting was in session at the Government House in Jos, the state capital, at press time on Wednesday.

Tags: [slideshow](#)