

Many Feared Killed, Houses Razed In Kogi Communal Clash

By **Atabor Julius** - March 8, 2019

Lokoja – Several persons were feared killed while houses were torched in renewed violence between Sheria and Egburra Mosun communities in Bassa Local Government Area of Kogi State on Thursday.

Residents claimed that no fewer than twenty persons believed to be Bassa Komus lost their lives in the early morning attack by Egburra Mosun militia.

However, the police confirmed that one person was killed in the fracas.

According to the Police Public Relations Officer for the state command, DSP William Aya, the unknown corpse was discovered after a detachment of anti-riot police officers were drafted to the area to quell the clash.

A community leader from Sheria community, Gberegū, said the Egburra had in the early hours of Thursday attacked Bassa Komus when no fewer than twenty people were killed while several houses were razed by the invading militia.

Geregu said in spite of the earlier peace accord signed by the belligerents on January 8, 2019, for a ceasefire, the Egburra launched a deadly attack without provocation.

He added that the bridge linking Oguma and Sheria was completely razed down by Egburra militia while Sheria village had been deserted.

He decried the continued militancy of Egburra Mosun communities against the Bassa Komus.

Another local, simply identified as Augustine Wodi, said he could not give the actual casualty figure for now but noted that with the police reinforcement, the situation would be brought under control.

He called on the state government to put machinery in place to forestall frequent clashes and to ensure lasting peace between these communities.

The PPRO said the situation had been brought under control.

He called on those who fled their homes to return as the force was determined to provide security, adding that more policemen had been drafted to restore normalcy in the affected areas.

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