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[Yusufu Aminu Idegu](#)

30/01/2011 01:25:00



Building on fire along Zaria road, Jos, Plateau yesterday

The Friday clash between some Hausa youths and students of Village Hostel, University of Jos, degenerated on Saturday resulting in the deaths of 14 people; at least four of them were

students. Over 20 houses were set ablaze in the latest outburst of violence.

Two filling stations close to the hostel were burnt and some residential houses especially at Angwa Galadima in Faringada were set on fire. The shooting of students by men of the Special Task

Force (STF) on Jos crises was said to have led to the escalation of the students' anger.

The violence that followed the students' protest led to a breakdown of law and order in Faringada, Zaria Road and Bauchi Road leading to the death of at least 10 people, with many others injured. Houses were also set ablaze in the area.

According to Vice Chancellor of University of Jos Prof. Sonni Tyoden who spoke with The Nation on the incident, "The problem started when some Hausa youths going for a burial at a grave yard situated directly behind the Village hostels stabbed two students of the hostels with knife.

"The stabbing of the students was what provoked them into protesting the attack. But in the process, 14 students were shot and are already receiving treatment at the Bingham University Teaching Hospital (BUTH) as a result of the gun shots.

"I can confirm that 14 students were shot but I can't confirm if they were shot by soldiers or by the Hausas that attacked them. I'm expecting a full report of the situation from the university security by Monday for me to know how the students were shot"

However, president National Association of Plateau State Students (NAPSS) Seth Mwansat said two of the students receiving treatment at BUTH died afterward.

The vice chancellor said, "Academic activities of the school have to be temporarily suspended as a result until Monday when I receive a full report of the incident which will determine if we should close the school or not, but for now there is no clear report of danger to

warrant closing the school completely.”

The commander of the STF Brig. Gen Hassan Umaru said, “It is not true that my men opened fire on the protesting students, I only know of four of them who were shot because they were advancing on my men in their hundreds; so you expect my men to defend themselves in such circumstances.”

Umaru also said, “Most of those students with injuries was as a result of the pandemonium, they were running on their own fell and sustained injuries, such injuries are different from that of gun shot; go to the hospital and you will confirm that all of them are not with gun shot wounds.” He added that five people have been arrested in connection with the violence in Jos, saying some hoodlums took advantage of the students’ protest to set houses on fire.

According to a statement issued by the state Commissioner for Information and Communication Gregory Yelong yesterday in Jos, “Government condemns this act of terrorism and unprovoked attack on citizens by hoodlums and miscreants and hereby directs the special task force to fish out the perpetrators and bring them to justice.

“Government also notes with serious concern and dismay the use of fire arms on harmless citizens especially women and students by men of the STF.

“Government condoles and sympathizes with the university community, families of the students and citizens who lost their lives in the incident and appeals for calm and restraint.”



Comments (17 posted):

ANAEMEJE ANAEMEJE B on 31/01/2011 09:07:16



The Government should ensure they provide permanent a special task force agency at the University gate or at the environment. And the task force should check mate students when necessary. This will add to stop further occurrence. And those involves should bring to book.



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frank on 31/01/2011 09:13:59



can the public hear the cooment by STF Brig. Gen Hassan Umaru? "I only know of four of (them) who were shot because they were advancing on my men in their hundreds; so you expect my men to defend themselves in such circumstances" and you call this man a human beign? knowing that his men attached unarmed students with guns. May God have mercy for your soul...(Gen Hassan Umaru and ur stupid men)



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[igna](#) on 31/01/2011 09:26:40



Nigeria Government should do someting to bring the problem in Jos under control. Yesterday Fulani headsmen, today is

the Housa Youth, tomorrow it may be Bokoharam or whatever. Why is the government foulding its arms seeying innocent citizens kill in this brutal manner. The old wounds are still too fresh for us to still witness this kind of killing. Please, please and please the authority concern should do something.



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Caleb Katwal on 31/01/2011 09:32:47

The crisis in Jos will never stop as long as the law enforcement agents are partisan rather than being professional. The partisanship of the army and the police is very clear for all the world to see. The recent attack in Dorowa where a serving police officer was caught among the attackers is a typical example. There is not doubt that Islamic fundamentalists are staging a Jihad on Christians in the North to Islamize this country. What is happening in Bauchi, Maiduguri, and Plateau are clear evidence what is going on. When they are through with the north they will move to other parts of this country. Islamic terrorist are going to divide this country.



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Caleb Katwal on 31/01/2011 09:34:33



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Omon Osiki, Asia on 31/01/2011 09:40:43

May God help Nigeria!



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Gabriel Adikwu on 31/01/2011 09:44:23

How long would this problems contine in Jos. Can we count the number of innocent souls lost already in Jos? The Government should look into this matter and do something

urgently. For me a powerful Military Administrator should be appointed for now pending when we can feel the breeze of peace. It is painful.



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Rev Echenim on 31/01/2011 09:54:48



Pls let all well-meaning Nigerians plead with Brig-General Hassan Umaru not to allow his men shoot students anymore. He may open a phase in this crisis that would lead to violence all over the country. Afterall, these students are from all over the country; they're not only Plateau students. So far, blood has flowed ceaselessly since he took over command of STF in Jos.



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ayeni on 31/01/2011 10:25:50



This Hassan Umaru is a very stupid man. He is foolish to the extent of telling us that his men shot 4 students. I don't know why the man is still there, maybe by the time the STF killed all the Christians and students in Jos, the Federal Govt will talk by then because we don't know why he is quite about Jos crisis.



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CHIZY on 31/01/2011 10:26:28

When excertly will the police tell us the truth ? Tomorrow they will tell us that those arrested were not found guilty .



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Maimuna Ali on 31/01/2011 10:48:38

Messege for my brothers in Plateau State

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36 As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”[j]

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,[k] neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.



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[lkegh, v](#) on 31/01/2011 10:52:10

Government should check and if found wanting punish any STF officer that is playing double deal and not protecting innocent citizens.



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Babatunde on 31/01/2011 10:53:21



It is evident that the STF Brig. Gen does not know what he's saying. Saying that his men did not open fire and then saying his men shot four suggest that they open fire in the first place. I suggest this Brig. Gen deserve to be court-marshal. Stop the killing in Jos.



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sultan on 31/01/2011 11:10:07



The state govt will always instigate violence and hatred against hausas, muslims, other ethnic groups and the security agencies and if the confrontation does not favour them they then talk of connivance. its unfortunate that students of unijos are recruited into this orgy and unijos administration which has persistently denied hausas and muslims admission and employment are now showing their through nature. Did the VC ask in what circumstance the student died before attributing the blame on hausas, thus

further inflaming the already volatile situation.



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Evang. Isah on 31/01/2011 11:14:43



Brig. Gen. Hassan Umaru, you can't convince or deceive anybody again, because of how your men have been shooting and killing civilians, in particular women and children along Bauchi road, who are killing people. When innocent people mostly(women and children)are running for safety, the same soldiers will gun them down especially at Bauchi road. What your men did by shooting soldiers is not surprising, you do no value human lives again. How can soldiers be shooting innocent students being attached by Hausa youth again? Can we believe that these soldiers are truly Nigerian soldiers? They are Serving whose inerest? Killing innocent lives and will still be paid for killing? Who is this Brig. Hassan Umaru? I hope he is not the same string of previous command influencing him? Does Nigeria still have truly significant patriotic and disciplined soldiers like before? Because the type of soldiers that been operation since Jos crisis made matters worse with a lots of questions the kind of soldiers trained and sent to Platea State.

Brig. Gen. Hassan Umaru, you better repent and give your lives to Jesus. Because is appointed unto men to die once, after then judgment follows. Your rank, body guards, guns,

ammounitions and no religion in this world will not save you except JESUS CHRIST Who offers eteral life.



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JAMES ODIVWRI on 31/01/2011 11:23:01



The crises in Jos has remained a recurring decimal. One cannot fathom wether it is religious, ethnic or political. The loss of lives and property on daily basis is alarming. government should take decisive action on the jos issue before it spreads to other parts of Nigeria.



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waltu Dasplang numle on 31/01/2011 11:32:54



enough is enough, why has this attack suddently turn on innocent students, please members of STF Should kindly rise up to the occassion of protecting our fellow comrades and our politicians should put their heads togther and lets find a lasting solutionS to this problem. Because this problem is realy creating a bad image on us all.



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