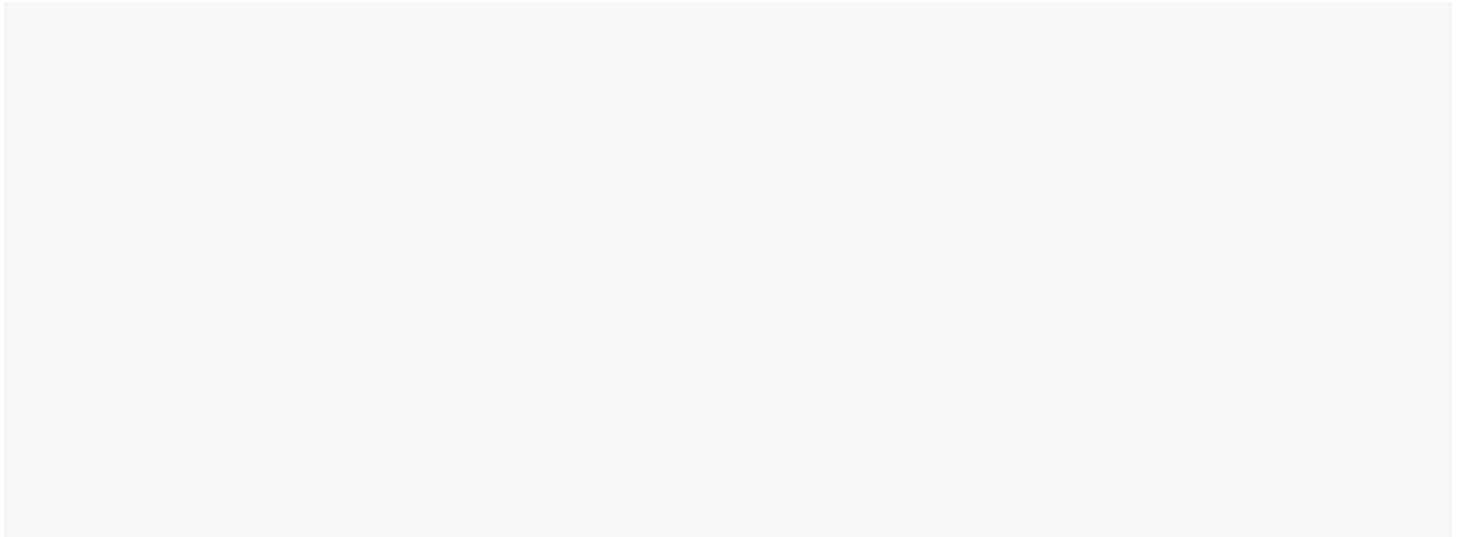


Death toll rises to ten in Jukun-Tiv crisis



by **Uja Emmanuel, Makurdi** April 5, 2019



Death toll in the bloody communal strife between Jukun and Tiv ethnic groups in Taraba and Benue states has increased from three to 10 persons.

As at yesterday, the two tribes were still burning houses, shooting and killing people at the border towns between Wukari and Ukum local government areas.

A witness, Terwase Kyado, said seven bodies were recovered from the bush near Tse Atsenge, which was completely raised down.

Women with children on their backs were seen fleeing when *The Nation* visited the troubled areas.

A 56 years old man, Tyohumba Dooga, told *The Nation* that he trekked three kilometres without water and food.

He said two of his brothers have been killed in the attack when Jukun overran his community in Tse Atsenga and set the settlement ablaze.

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But, Benue State Governor Samuel Ortom has called for peace and understanding between the Jukun and Tiv communities.

He condemned the conflict, which has led to loss of some lives and destruction of property, rendering many people homeless.

Ortom said he and his Taraba State counterpart, Governor Darius Ishaku, have taken far-reaching measures to end the conflict and restore lasting peace to the border communities.

He appealed to the people of the affected communities to support the peace initiatives of the two states to prevent further conflicts in the area.



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