

Political clash claims 2 lives

From HABIB UMAR
AMIN, Lafía

TWO persons were killed while several others wounded in Lafía, Nasarawa State yesterday when supporters of opposition political parties clashed at the palace of Emir of Lafía.

The palace in its immediate reaction to the incident alleged that the clash was pre-arranged to assassinate the emir.

An eyewitness told *New Nigerian* that the incident, which occurred at about 10 am, saw the warring factions shooting guns sporadically, killing two on the spot and leaving several others wounded, including three school children who are now receiving treatment at various hospitals.

It was also learnt that the warring youth were said to have stormed the palace chanting war songs, before engaging in gun battle

in Lafía

which caused panic among the residents and passers-by in the area.

Spokesman of the palace Alhaji Awwal Muthammed Yusuf, who is also *Madakin* Lafía, fingered supporters of incumbent member of the House of Representatives representing Lafía-Obi federal constituency, Alhaji Danbala Almakura and the *Mabudin* Lafía, Alhaji Usman Baba as the cause of the trouble.

KGSG deplores BNSG's

KOGI State Head of Service Chief Yahaya Agbenyo has condemned Benue State government's forceful deployment of 50 civil servants of Kogi origin back to the state last year.

Addressing newsmen in Lokojía at the weekend, Agbenyo said the action

He also said on seeing the youth approaching the premises of the palace, he intimidated the state Commissioner of Police Alhaji Hadi Zarewa, who promised to take the needed action.

Alhaji Yusuf said he accused the two opposing factions of causing the trouble because of the raging hostility between the two personalities.

Effort to speak to the commissioner of police proved abortive as he could not be reached on phone.

Kogites

was wrong, coming after 14 years of service.

He said the Benue government should have retired them and paid them their benefits instead of forcefully off-loading them on their state of origin 14 years after the state was created.

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Yobe declares 'shidehial'