

## Two killed, Mantu's house torched

By JUDITH ADAMA, Jos  
**T**WO persons were killed Friday in Jos and two others wounded, as police who had escorted Mike Dapialong and other law makers to the State House of Assembly, in defiance to a court order stopping their meeting, opened fire on supporters of Governor Joshua Dariye around the Plateau Hospital.

Also house of the Deputy Senate President, Ibrahim Mantu situated at No. 7 Mangu road in Jos, was torched by irate youths protesting the killing of the two young men and in the process burning four cars and smashing five others in the compound, further raising tension in Jos and environs. The house is being occupied by Mantu's sister.

New Nigerian Weekly gathered that an attempt was made to raise down President Olusegun Obasanjo's house, off Ibrahim Taiwo road in Jos, but they were driven away while motorcycles were burned down at the house of the Minister of Industries, Ambassador Fidelis Tapgun at Naraguta Avenue in Jos.

Governor Dariye, who visited the hospital to see the corpses of the dead and those wounded, appealed for calm assuring that appropriate measures would be taken.

The incident happened at about 9 a.m. when Mike Dapialong and the other lawmakers were taken to the House of Assembly to seat; though the state high court notice restraining them from sitting was conspicuously pasted on the gate of the Assembly complex.

Journalists who were in front of the Assembly complex, having got wind of the sitting, were, however, barred from entering the complex to witness the proceedings which lasted for about 20 minutes.

It was when the lawmakers under heavy police escort were being driven out of the complex that the police opened fire on the supporters of Governor Dariye who had blocked the road at around the hospital, a short distance from the Assembly complex. The incident caused panic around the city of Jos.

One of those killed was a young man whom New Nigerian Weekly gathered was gunned down at the security check point,

... as police open fire on Dariye's supporters



Governor Joshua Dariye

of the hospital as he peeped out to see what was happening. The bullet blew off his eyes and part of the skull and was left at that point for hours as the protesters refused to allow his remains to be moved.

The other was said to have died at the hospital theatre where he had been rushed for treatment.

An eye witness told the New Nigerian Weekly that the police which was led by the Police Commissioner, Mr Ibiyinka Kayode opened fire on the governor's supporters who were

pelting their vehicles with stones as they attempted to pass the road block with the legislators.

Governor Dariye told journalists at the hospital that the incident was very unfortunate, saying that it was not what democracy was all about.

According to him, they had discussed at the security council meetings that in times of emergencies, teargas or rubber bullets be used to disperse the crowd, saying the incident calls for restraints.

Governor Dariye who cut short the interview to appeal to the agitated crowd said two wrongs cannot make a right, appealed for calm and assured that justice would be achieved.

Meanwhile, the case brought before the Justice Yargatar Nimpar's court by embattled Speaker, Simon Lalong was adjourned for Monday, 16 October to allow for proper service.

Counsel to the applicant, Barrister Garba Pwul explained

that the injunction restraining Dapialong and five others was pasted at the Assembly complex and another served on the defendant counsel, Solomon Umoh while the publication on the same matter was to have been carried in the day's Daily Trust Newspaper.

However, counsel to the defendant, Umoh said there was no such publication in the Trust.

Garba Pwul also raised alarm that the lawmakers were sitting at the House even as the case was being heard, in defiance to the court order and urged the court to take the matter seriously as her authority is being undermined.

Yargatar Nimpar, while adjourning the case till Monday, ordered that PDP National Deputy Legal Adviser, Barrister Agaga be in court to clear some fundamental issues raised in a letter before her which was not disclosed but which was gathered bothers on issue of representation.

...Dariye calls for CP's removal, says democracy

**G**OVERNOR Joshua Dariye of Plateau State has passed a vote of no confidence on the state Police Commissioner, Mr. Ibiyinka Kayode and called for his immediate removal.

In a broadcast to the people of the state, following the crisis in Jos resulting in the killings of two persons, Governor Dariye declared that the recent acts of provocation and the resultant killing of people is an attempt to make the state ungovernable through unleashing another round of blood shed.

He said the commissioner which had become an interested party, is inaccessible to him who is the chief executive of the state, adding that the commissioner has refused to honour government's invitation to the state security council meeting.

The governor said that for the past two weeks, the situation in Jos has been tensed as the police has failed to be neutral, adding that they have derailed in their constitutional responsibility of maintaining law and order.

"In view of this gross

needs reappraisal

dereliction of duty, I call on Mr. President to please in the interest of peace, law and order reassign Mr. Ibiyinka before further deterioration of the security situation in the state," he added.

Governor Dariye said it was unfortunate that some people want leadership at all cost and have chosen to spill blood to achieve this purpose rather than go through ballot box, the law courts and other constitutional means.

He said the triumph of evil over good is temporal, urging people to learn to hold on to God.

The governor who commented on the October 5th incident where some lawmakers led by Mike Dapialong attempted to unseat him through impeachment, following a script written by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), said the singular act of Peter Azi and Davou Dungs, who refused to be intimidated even at gun point,

failed their attempt.

He said it was unfortunate that the armed operatives in a bid to achieve their plot, resorted to the naked use of force which resulted in the death of some people.

Dariye said if democracy is truly a government of the people by the people, for the people, then Nigeria's democracy needs to be further appraised.

"The acts of outright dictatorship and use of brute and naked force we are now witnessing are antithetical to democratic norms world over. Jungle justice, intimidation and the shedding of innocent blood by agents of detractors of the state portends great danger for Nigeria's fledgling democracy", adding that these have unfortunately become the order of the day.

He said in a democracy the rule of law is supreme and must be allowed to prevail in all circumstances, stressing that in this instant, despite a subsisting court injunction restraining the Dapialong group from meeting, they still went ahead.