

ANPP thugs kill police inspector in Bauchi

THE Police Command in Bauchi State said that some ANPP thugs killed a police inspector in Giade Local Government Area of the state on Saturday.

The Commissioner of Police, Mr Adanaya Talman-Gaya, who stated this at a news conference in Bauchi, said that the inspector was killed during the ANPP primaries which held on that day.

He said that a police operational vehicle was also destroyed and that a policeman's son was killed during the violence which erupted at Birshi village in Bauchi

Local Government.

The commissioner described the killings, which marred party primaries as unfortunate, saying that the command thought that the primaries which was an intra-party affair could have been peaceful.

Talman-Gaya said that although the command had yet to identify the suspected killers, investigation had been stepped up.

He promised that the command would protect lives and property of innocent persons and urged residents and politi-

cians to conduct themselves peacefully to avoid a breach of the peace.

Meanwhile, Talman-Gaya said the command arrested 45 persons, including 27 suspected thugs, hired from a neighbouring state, in connection with Saturday's political violence in the state.

He also said that three persons aspiring for councilorship positions were also arrested for allegedly sponsoring thugs.

Talman-Gaya said that the suspects were arrested during the ANPP primaries which was

marred by bloody violence in Bauchi, Bogoro, Toro, Ningi, Misau, Giade and Alkeleri local government areas.

He said that 27 of the suspects were recruited from a neighbouring state by some politicians with intent to cause chaos and mayhem during the party primaries.

Talman-Gaya said the arrested aspirants were nabbed while preparing their hired thugs for violence.

He said that weapons, including dane guns, locally-fabricated pistols, daggers and machetes

were found on the thugs when they were arrested.

"I have sent my men to all the flash points just as more arrests are being made in connection with the disturbances," he said.

Talman-Gaya said that available information showed that some unidentified politicians purchased fake police and military uniforms for distribution to hired thugs to cause trouble.

He reiterated the readiness of the police to maintain law and order in the state, adding:

"We have enough manpower to handle the situation."