

4 die in renewed Fulani/Tiv crisis

JOHNSON BABAJIDE - MAKURDI

FOUR persons were, on Wednesday, killed in a fresh attack allegedly carried out by Fulani herdsmen on the residents of Adeke community, a suburb of Makurdi, Benue State capital.

Nigerian Tribune gathered that two of the victims were killed on Tuesday night and dumped in a well while the other two were killed on Wednesday morning; a situation which caused uproar in the area.

As a result of the latest development, the corpses were taken to D Police Division at Ankpa quarters by protesting residents, who later took the corpses to the morgue at the Federal Medical Centre (FMC), Makurdi.

Speaking on the development, member representing Makurdi South in the state assembly, Honourable Benjamin Adayin, confirmed the discovery of corpses in the well and the killing of a young man on Wednesday morning at Industrial Layout, around Adeke community.

The Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Dan Ezeala, only confirmed that two corpses were found and

they had already been deposited at the FMC, Makurdi.

Meanwhile, the state government has viewed with grave concern the unabated outbreak of hostilities between Fulani herdsmen and Tiv farmers at Adaka/Adeke communities of Makurdi and the people of Agatu Local Government Areas of

Benue State.

In a statement issued by the acting governor, Chief Steven Lawani, and made available to the Nigerian Tribune, it regretted the intensity and frequency of the crisis among the people, which had regrettably led to loss of lives and destruction of properties.

Lawani said the government would continue to pursue initiatives that would forge unity and peace among the warring communities and would not abdicate its legitimate responsibilities to protect the lives and properties of its citizens.

Jang accuses Amaechi of incitement

LEON USIGBE - ABUJA

FACTIONAL chairman of the Nigeria Governors' Forum (NGF), Governor Jonah Jang, has accused his rival, Governor Rotimi Amaechi, of incitement following Amaechi's NGF recent call for the probing of the President Goodluck Jonathan-led administration over the alleged missing \$48.9 billion from the account of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC).

He said the Amaechi's communique issued after a meeting of his NGF last week Wednesday was an attempt to turn Nigerians against the Federal Government.

After the meeting in Abuja, the Amaechi's faction

had urged the National Assembly to institute a comprehensive independent forensic probe on the issue of missing money, as it believed that the money was not paid into the Federation Account.

It also accused the administration of breaching the provision of the constitution by not holding consultations with the states before submitting the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) to the National Assembly.

Similarly, the factional NGF pointed out that Jonathan had failed to convene meetings of statutory institutions, including National Economic Council (NEC), the Council of State, the Nigeria Police Council and the

Federation Account Allocation Committee (FAAC).

The communique, signed by Amaechi, had also noted that the current security challenges facing the nation were not unconnected to the president's refusal to convene the meetings of the statutory institutions.

It said: "We, accordingly call on the National Assembly to institute a comprehensive independent forensic audit by an international reputable firm. We fear that the recent decline of state revenues is not unconnected with the financial diversion...."

But in a statement made available to the media in Abuja on Wednesday, Jang described Amaechi's communique as "frivolous and inciting."