

# Curfew in Kaduna as fresh violence erupts

**Segun Olatunji, Kaduna**

**T**ENSION gripped Kaduna metropolis on Wednesday as fresh round of violence erupted in Kafanchan in the southern part of the state.

This was said to have followed the discovery of a corpse at Ungwan Katsit near the palace of the Emir of Jema'a, Alhaji Muhammadu Isa Muhammadu.

Our correspondent gathered that the violence broke out on Wednesday morning as rampaging youths in Katsit allegedly identified the corpse as that of an Hausa Muslim.

The news of the renewed violence in Kafanchan however caused tension in Kaduna metropolis as many

residents rushed to their homes to escape what many feared may result in reprisals.

As at the time of filing this report, the circumstances surrounding the death of the young man was still unclear as the youths in the area erected roadblocks and burnt tyres on the streets.

The youths also prevented people and vehicles from entering and leaving the town.

The state government has however imposed a 24-hour curfew at Kafanchan and Zangon Kataf.

The alleged disappearance of security operatives deployed in Zonkwa was said to have heightened the tension in the town.

Unconfirmed reports claimed that the soldiers, who were apparently caught unawares, later regrouped to confront the youths.

The State Commissioner of Police, Mr. Ballah Nasarawa, however, declined to comment on the violence.

He said, "I can't tell you anything now because we are still investigating the fact of the matter."

Heavily armed security operatives have taken over security at the Palace of the Emir of Jama'a to ward off youths threatening to attack the traditional ruler's domain.

Confirming the incident, the Emir of Jema'a explained that the Police Area Commander in Kafanchan informed him

of the discovery of the corpse behind his palace.

The monarch said following the information, some youths took to the streets, adding that he immediately appealed to security operatives to bring the protest under control.

The Emir added that some youths from outside his domain later blocked the roads in the town, creating tension.

But another source linked the violence to last Thursday's killing at St. Joseph Catholic

Church, Tabak near Zonkwa, headquarters of Zangon Kataf Local Government Area.

Reacting to the development, the Special Adviser to Governor Patrick Ibrahim Yakowa on Religious Affairs (Christian Matters), Rev. Joseph Hayab, urged residents to eschew violence and remain calm.

"What we have achieved with peace cannot be equated with the loss of our dear state and northern region at large has lost to violence."

## ACN, PDP disagree over employment scheme

**Simon Utebor**

**T**HE ruling party in Ogun State, Action Congress of

Nigeria and its major opposition, Peoples Democratic Party have differed over the government's employment scheme