

Nasarawa: Alago, Eggon crisis claims 60

No fewer than 60 people have been killed in another fight between the Alago and Eggon people of Nasarawa State.

The victims were killed in the fight between the two ethnics at Tudun Adabu in the Obi Local Government Area of the state.

Witnesses on Wednesday told our correspondent that the fight between the Eggon and Fulani herdsmen started in the Assakio headquarters of Lafia East and spread to Tudun on Wednesday.

Apart from the dead victims, thousands of people in the affected areas were said to have been rendered homeless.

It was also gathered that all the inhabitants of Assakio, Tudun Adabu and Dedere had deserted their abode as a result of the crisis in the areas.

The governor, Tanko Al-Makura, visited Wamba, Akwanga and Nasarawa

Eggon local government areas on Wednesday to ascertain the level of destruction.

The governor, during the visit, also donated relief materials to the Internally Displaced Persons affected by the crisis.

Sources told our correspondent that the Wednesday's violence started when the

Eggon people that the Alago youths had joined forces with the Fulani mercenaries to fight them.

"As we are talking to you, Dederu, Assakio and Tudun Adabu are no-go areas and all the inhabitants have deserted all the affected places. Over 60 persons have been killed," a source who asked for anonymity said.

The source said that corpses of some of the people that were killed were abandoned in the bush and there was no provision from the state government to evacuate the bodies.

"The state government had continued to remain adamant on the crisis which started five days ago. Governor Umaru Al-Makura was at the NYSC orientation camp where the Batched 'B' corps members were passing out after their three weeks orientation programme when the state was on fire," the source lamented.

The current violence, our correspondent learnt, had affected not only the warring communities, but the Ibgo, Igala, Tiv, Afor, Koro and all other tribes living in the affected areas, leading to large numbers of displaced persons in the state.

The Police Public Relations Officer in the state command, Ismaila Numan, onfirmed the escalating crisis but said he had yet to ascertain the casualty figure.

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