

Harvest of deaths in Kogi

- Gunmen kill Bello's aide, 2 others
- 6 die in auto crash

THE camp of Governor Yahaya Bello of Kogi State has been thrown into mourning following the assassination of one of his aides, Yusuf Adabenege, by gunmen in Okene town.

Adabenege, a personal assistant to the governor on domestic matters, was reportedly killed along-

side two of his aides while driving on Obehira-egbe road in Okene.

Similarly, four members of staff of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), a National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) member and a three-year-old girl died in an accident on Ajaokuta-Lokoja Road on Saturday. It was

learnt that the corps member was performing his primary assignment with INEC office in Lokoja, and that the child belonged to one of the INEC staff members.

Adabenege was at the forefront of the re-election bid of the governor and also the custodian of An-eku Okuku Cementi masquerade of

Obehira.

Reports say he was ambushed at the front of Living Faith Church, Okuha Anatahu Okene Obehira road about 6:40pm on Friday when a hand grenade was thrown at his convoy, forcing the vehicles to stop abruptly.

He was said to have been dragged down from the vehicle and a grenade hit him on the head. The gunmen also fired at his vehicle, which resulted in the death of his driver identified as Musa.

Following his death, security operatives were drafted to strategic places around the city.

Speaking on the issue on the radio, Bello condoled with the people of Ebiraland, vowing that he would work with the security agencies to bring the perpetrators to book.

Meanwhile, the auto crash victims were returning in the evening from Ayinba, where they attended the wedding ceremony of another INEC staff. Director of Voter Education and Publicity at Kogi office of INEC, Mr. Ahmed Biombo, confirmed the incident.

Biombo said that the victims were from the Information and Communication Technology and Accounts departments of INEC. He said that the corpses have been deposited at the morgue of the Federal Medical Centre, Lokoja.

However, the Kogi Sector Commander of Federal

2019: Party chairmen to sign undertaking in Kaduna

From **Noah Ebije**, Kaduna

IN order to checkmate violent activities of political thugs before, during and after the 2019 general election in Kaduna State, chairmen of participating political parties are to sign undertaking. The undertaking, which is part of oversight functions of Inter-Party Advisory Council (IPAC), is to make the party chairmen held responsible in the event of ugly incidents

caused by their supporters.

This was disclosed by the state chairman of IPAC, Alhaji Ibrahim Suleiman, in a chat with *Daily Sun*.

Suleiman, who is also the state chairman of African Democratic Congress (ADC), said before the signing of the agreement on curbing political violence, a workshop will be organised for the respective party chairmen in the state.

"IPAC will engage the chairmen of all the political parties in the state in

a workshop on the dangers of political thuggery. At the end of the workshop, all chairmen will sign an undertaking to checkmate thuggery.

"The opposition party would map out strategy to checkmate any form of rigging. Nothing is impossible when it comes to election; what is key is strategy to curb it.

"On the issue of vote-buying, the way out is to sensitize the electorate on the danger or repercussions of votes buying," he said.

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