

# Many feared killed, houses razed as crisis rocks Mambilla Plateau

Ben Adaji  
JALINGO

**M**any people were yesterday feared killed as crisis erupted in Mambilla Plateau, Sardauna Local Government Area of Taraba State.

The crisis, which swept through several villages on the plateau, was also said to have left hundreds of houses razed while many livestock were also said to have been killed or injured.

An eyewitness from Gembu, headquarters of Sardauna Local Government Area of the state,

told *New Telegraph* on telephone that the crisis started on Saturday over a land dispute between a settler and a land owner in Ngoroje village.

The incident resorted to the burning of houses in Ngoroje yesterday morning and later escalated to several other villages on the plateau.

Confirming the incident in a telephone interview with *New Telegraph* yesterday in Jalingo, Police Public Relations Office (PPRO), David Misal, said the development, which followed the arrest of some suspects on Saturday in Nguroje, a village near Gembu, had been brought under control.

He said he was yet to ascertain number of casualties, but confirmed that soldiers from a nearby Army Barracks in Serti, Gashaka Local Government Area and units of riot policemen as well as members of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC) from Bali, were yesterday deployed to the area.

He added that the state Commissioner of Police, Mr. Yunana Babas, had also moved to the area to ensure that peace was restored.

Meanwhile, stakeholders from the area residing in Jalingo after an emergency meeting had called for calm.

Members representing Nguroje and Gembu constituency in the state House of Assembly, Hon. Mohammed Bashir and Abubakar Jugulde, had condemned the violence in very strong terms and called on the irate youths to embrace dialogue in resolving their grievances.

Jugulde said some of the settlements affected in his constituency include dWuro Ardo-Kawuwa, Labbare Jauro Saidu, Chabbal Gudali, Tunga Shuaibu and Wuro Ardo Sanda.

Similarly, Bashir said Yerimaru village and some parts of Nguroje under his constituency had been affected.