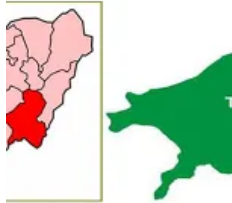


10 killed, seven villages burnt in Taraba communal clash

May 6, 2020 Correspondents



At least 10 people were killed yesterday while over seven villages were reportedly burnt down as the crisis between Tiv and Ichen tribes in Donga Local Government Area of Taraba State continued unchecked.

A source said some of the major villages burnt down included Suntai Daji and Ananum while about five other surrounding villages were sacked and all the houses burnt. It was learnt that militia men have taken over the entire area, forcing thousands of people, mostly women and children, to flee for their lives. A resident of the area, Danazumi Dauda, told our correspondent on the phone that militia were moving with sophisticated weapons and went on the rampage on yesterday morning.

He said the armed men attacked Ichen and Tiv villages to avenge the loss incurred on both tribes during the first clash between Ichen and Tiv at Marraramba village on April 30. Dauda said thousands of refugees had crossed to part of Kurmi, Bali, Gassol and Takum local government areas. According to him, it is difficult to give exact number of those killed so far. He, however, said that at least 10 people had been killed since the crisis began last week.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP David Misal, confirmed the fresh attack and the burning of Suntai Daji, Ana um and other villages. He said it was difficult to know the exact casualty figure for now. The PPRO, however, said that more policemen had been drafted to the area.



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