

Scores killed as fresh violence erupts in Taraba

At least 50 people have been reportedly killed and several houses burnt as fresh communal clashes erupted on Saturday in Karim Lamido Local Government Area, Taraba State, witnesses said.

But police said the number of casualties cannot yet be ascertained due to the inaccessibility of the terrain at the time of the findings.

The State's Police Command spokesperson, Usman Abdullahi, said the new crisis between the Wurkuns and the Karimjos started around 3 a.m. as "guerilla attacks."

He said: "In the last few days, there have been pockets of guerilla attacks in some communities in the area whereby the Karimjos attack the Wurkuns, and the Wurkuns also attack in re-

turn, or the Wurkuns attack the Karimjos, and they also attack in return."

Abdullahi said a joint security team of military and police personnel are already in the area to restore order.

The latest killings and destruction of properties, including houses, farmlands and domestic animals, is coming barely a week after the state governor, Agbu Kefas, met

with traditional rulers and heads of security agencies on the need to foster peace.

Kefas said during the meeting: "Taraba State, like many parts of our great nation, has been grappling with the scourge of insecurity. The rising cases of banditry, kidnapping, communal clashes, and farmer-herder conflicts have caused immense pain and sufferings to our people."

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