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4 Killed in Fresh Communal Crisis in Taraba

From Augustine Osayande in Jalingo, 03.27.2008

Four people were killed on Tuesday while about ten houses were also burnt down in a fresh communal crisis between the Kuteb and Jukun people in Takum local government area of Taraba state.

The crisis started after the celebration of Juchicheb festival of the Kuteb people. Governor Danbaba Danfulani Suntai who immediately dispatched his deputy and the special adviser on security matter to the area said he was saddened by the crisis. He ordered the immediate suspension of the festival, saying stakeholders from the area could not guaranty the security of lives and properties of the people.

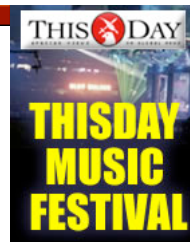
He said the peace of the people in the area was more paramount than any festival, adding "if anybody thinks he can break the peace of my people, I will fight the person with all my power."

THISDAY gathered that displaced people in the area were trying to take refuge in the army barrack as the burning of properties and houses continued. All entrance leading to Takum was also said to have been blocked by unknown persons.

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