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Tension Rises in Jos over Fresh Killings

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Gov Jonah Jang

Seriki Adinoyi

Once again, the simmering tension in parts of Plateau State reared its head when three corpses were discovered in the early hours of Tuesday in an abandoned building in Bukuru, Jos South Local Government Area of the state.

An eyewitness said one of the victims was identified as a widow and two other young men.

The source said the bodies of the victims were found with wounds believed to be of gunshots. The tension forced schools in the state capital to close early for fear of reprisals.

Parents, who had taken their children to schools, were seen hurrying back to pick them, when they heard of the killings.

It was observed that commercial activities including banking within Bukuru town were immediately paralysed for fear of any untoward reaction; shop owners

were also seen standing by their shops, but did not open for business.

A source said the victims were identified as members of a particular religion; therefore there were apprehensions among residents of the area of a possible reprisal. Residents of the area said they had heard sporadic gunshots the previous night.

Spokesman of the Special Task Force (STF) on Jos crisis, Captain Salisu Mustapha, who confirmed the development, said a woman was killed in Bukuru which sparked reactions in the area.

According to him, the development created panic and tension in the area, adding that operatives of the STF were on alert monitoring the situation to prevent an escalation of the crisis.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) Felicia Anslem also confirmed the incident, but said only one person was killed.

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