

# Communal clash claims three lives, scores injured

BY PETER DURU

**M**AKURDI—THREE persons were killed while several others sustained various degrees of injuries, following renewed fighting between Tiv residents of Agboughoul community in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State. *Vanguard* gathered that the crisis erupted following a land dispute between the supposed original owners of Makurdi town, known as Tyoshin community and their settler brothers, known as Kparev.

According to sources, the conflict, which has led to burning of houses, has rendered hundreds of residents of the community

homeless just as many of the inhabitants have fled their homes for fear of being caught in the cross fire. Eyewitness told *Vanguard* that there was sporadic shooting throughout last night between the feuding parties, leaving women and children scampering for safety. Many of those fleeing the area are said to have besieged a village near Makurdi metropolis.

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer, Assistant Suorintendent, Ejike Alaribe, said the police had moved their personnel into the crisis zone to forestal further destruction of lives and property in the community, adding, however, that he was not aware of any record of deaths so far.

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