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nigerian news

MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2011

Presidential election: 20 killed in Bauchi, Gombe

No fewer than <u>20 people were fear dead</u> in Gombe and Bauch state yesterday following the violence that erupted immediately after the results of the presidential election were appounced

In the Gombe State capital, the home of the PDP chairman in the state, Mr Jack Gupy located in Abuja quarters was set ablaze by irate youths suspected to be Congress for Progressive Change (CPC) supporters. Five people were reportedly burnt to death in the house.

In another incident, 10 people were killed and cars, houses and other valuables destroyed, in different parts of Bauchi State including Misau, Alkaleri, Wunti-Dada, Kofar Dumi, and Azare, as irate youths, mostly under-aged believed to be **supporters** of one of the parties unleashed terror on innocent people in the name of protecting votes cast in favour of the party.

Nigerian News gathered that tension enveloped **Gombe** town when **CPC supporters** suddenly went violent attacking innocent people.

It was learnt that their action was prompted by a text message that went round that the ruling Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in the state had planned to rig the election in favour of its presidential candidate, Dr Goodluck Jonathan.

According to an eyewitness, the protesters suspected to be **CPC supporters** were reacting to text messages that the PDP had already perfected moves to rig out the **CPC** candidate, General Muhammadu Buhari (retd).

"On Saturday night, **CPC supporters** in their hundreds besieged the INEC office in the state capital before the results were announced. They were there throughout the night. They broke windows in the INEC office and vandalized cars," the source said.

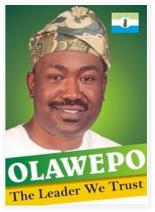
The returning officer, Assistant Inspector General of Police (AIG) Abdulrahman (retd) had to come out and appeal to them to be calm. "After the result was announced on Sunday afternoon, the youths went to Governor Danjuma Goje's house and attempted to set it ablaze but were prevented by security men. They left the Government House and made for the home of the former minister of state for education, Mrs Aishatu Dukku at the Abacha's quarters and vandalized cars packed within the premises and part of the house. From there, the youths who were armed with matchetes and clubs proceeded to the house of the state PDP chairman and torched it.

According to the eyewitness, "five people were also burnt to death and one **policeman** on duty killed in the process." Unconfirmed report had it that four others were killed by stray bullets

The police was yet to announce the number of people so far arrested, but Commissioner of Police Mr Suleman Lawal has announced movement restriction in the state capital as a result of the crisis.

In Alkaleri, the irate youths torched buildings and cars just as the Chairman of Kirfi Local Government Council, Ibrahim Galadima and that of Bauchi LGC, Sabo Abdullahi

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Mohammed were molested and their vehicles burnt down.

In <u>Misau</u>, reports have it the family ho<u>use of the SSG</u>, Ibrahim Ahmed Dandija was <u>torched by the irate youths</u> while a Corps member who was an electoral official in one of the polling centre was beating to a pulp on his way to his station for the exercise. In <u>Bauchi</u>, the campaign office of the Bauchi State Governor, Isa Yuguda located on Ran Road and several vehicles belonging to PDP agents were completely <u>burnt</u> down by the irate youths who blocked the main Ahmadu Bello Way leading to the Sa'adu Zungur Model School which served as the collation centre for the presidential election.

In <u>Wuntin-Dada</u> and <u>Guru Area of</u> Bauchi metropolis, three <u>people were killed by</u> the ir<u>ate youths</u> who questioned <u>why the PDP won</u> in some of the polling centres in the area. Two more people were killed in the Kofar-Dumi area of the Bauchi metropolis just as pockets of houses and cars were also torched in the areas.

As at the time of this report, armed military men as well as anti-riot policemen have been drafted to strategic locations in Bauchi metropolis to maintain peace just as the miscreants have been forced out of the streets in order to restore peace so that people can go about their legitimate duties which they had abandoned for fear of possible attack.

Unconfirmed reports have it that a number of the miscreants have been arrested by the State Police Command which however has not made any public comments on violence that trailed the presidential elections in Bauchi State as all efforts to get the Commissioner of Police, John Abakasanga or the PPRO, Mohammad Barau failed as all the calls put through to the mobile lines were not answered as at the time of going to press.

In <u>Alkaleri</u>, the irate youths unleashed terror on people during the conduct of the election setting buildings and cars ablaze just as the Chairman of Kirfi Local Government Council, Ibrahim Galadima and that of Bauchi LGC, Sabo Abdullahi Mohammed were molested and their vehicles were burnt down. In Misau, reports have it the family house of the SSG, Ibrahim Ahmed Dandija was torched by the irate youths while a Corps member who was an electoral official in one of the polling centre was beating to a pulp on his way to his station for the exercise.

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Posted by gladys at 4:02 AM

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