Press Coverage of 2011 Political Violence: A Comparative Analysis of Daily Trust and Vanguard Newspapers

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Abstract
Social interactions between people with different background and views are achieved through political process. It is obvious that, large shares of the ideas as lo who is important, who is dangerous, whai is interesting and so forth is derive from the media. Political violence has become a gigantic problem in which the media are saddled with the responsibility to tackle the menace for sttslainahle development. Political violence could be seen as the use of force which is considered as an illegal and unlawful way to obtain an advantage within a political process. Such violence is caused when opponents in an election hire tiutgs and other like persons lo violently take control of the electoral process to their own advantage. I his paper attempts lo evaluate the newspaper coverage of political violence in Nigeria, how the problem is defined, whether the newspapers were published in such to address the problems or otherwise to instigate the parlies involved. This paper through content analvsis exinntnes t}\˙o national new.^pajn'rs. The findings have shown that the newspapers pay attention io issues and problems in politics, and their coverage can sen'e as a tool for reducing political violence in the Nigerian democratic setting, despite the fact that both newspapers coverage lend ID focus mostly on conflict behaviours rather than the antecedent factors that may have led to those conflicts. The study concludes- that even though there are slight difference in the angle of their news coverage both did not treat the story indepth because the report is treated as news report.

Introduction

There is no doubt about the role of mass media in politics. This is observed because of the power of media to transmit information over long distances and the ability to influence their audiences positively or negatively (Udomisor and Bwala, 2010). Human beings as social and political animals. They constantly interact with one another.(Liman2008:15) Communication is the sharing of experience which may involve two people interacting in a face-to-face

situation; or involve many people reading the thoughts of one person, or listening to his voice over the radio. Politics on the other hand, could be seen as a struggle for power, the term power is seen here as anything that establishes or entrenches the control of man. It simply refers to man's control over the minds and action of other men. (Liman, 2008:2).

Political violence occurs before elections, during elections or after elections. Violence before election is in the form of assassination or kidnapping opponents to prevent them from running the main election. Violence during election is characterized by the use of force to intimidate the electoral officials and other candidates and manipulate and rig the votes cast during the election to the candidate's advantage. While violence after election includes total elimination of opponents to restrain them from occupying the positions they have won during the election. (Agubamah, 2008:192) For instance, in Nigeria, the post-election violence erupted after the elections (reactive Violence). The violence can take several forms: (l) Justice seeking—to protest or redress outcomes from rigged or fraudulent elections.(2) Retaliatory—to fulfil pre-election threats when the outcome is unsatisfactory.(3) Outcome grieving—to show displeasure with the outcome of a legitimate election in which there is no clear evidence of rigging or fraud (Meadov, 2009).

Statement of the Problem

Nowadays, all social and political lives are governed by elections, including meetings of business partners to communal and presidential elections. In the 1970s and 1980s a certain form of democratization strongly encouraged by the United State, was instituted in Latin America, following the collapse of the Berlin Wall. Electoral process were also put in place in several countries, in Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Africa. (Tlemcani, 2005:26).

Since communication is at the heart of existence, it is practically impossible to separate this vital clement of life from politics or any facet of life. In fact politics cannot take place without communication. (Liman 2008:16). For instance, looking at election news coverage in Nigeria, it is evident that conflict reporting tends to place the focus on how well specific candidates won or lost their campaign. As a result, complex conflicts such as those in Nigeria, specifically the ones happened during 2011 general elections are often represented as a struggle between two poles, even when there are several stakeholders in the conflict. The element of competition or battle between the two sides is therefore pervasive in news reports. (Makheba, 2011).

For example, President Jonathan won the election by 57%. News reports indicated that northern cities like Kano, Kaduna and Gombe erupted into violence after the first rounds of the results were announced with protesters arguing that the election had been rigged. The media reported that several people were attacked and killed and that houses, churches and mosques were set ablaze. The Vice President's home in Kaduna was also burnt and crowds broke into a prison and released inmates. It is against this background that this study seeks to find out the seriousness accorded to political violence by the Nigerian print media. Also to know the role print media play in tackling political violence in Nigerian democratic setting.

Objectives of the Study

1) The study aims to examine the seriousness accorded to the coverage of political violence by the Daily Trust and Vanguard Newspaper.
2) To examine the objectivity or subjectivity that may exist in the coverage of political violence in Nigerian democratic setting as portrayed by Daily Trust and Vanguard Newspaper.

3) To know .the role of Daily Trust and Vanguard Newspaper in tackling the 2011 political violence.

Researeh Questions

1) Is there a kind of seriousness accorded to the coverage of political violence by Daily Trust and Vanguard Newspaper?
2) What are the roles of Daily Trust and Vanguard Newspaper in tackling the 2011 political violence?
3) To what extent were the two newspapers objective or subjective?

Significance

This study is significant to the media practitioners, government and policy makers, who may use it critically, to ensure unity that serve the needs of the society and promote peaceful co-existence in our democratic dispensation would.

Literature review

Journalistic Ethics and Political Violence

Many problems have plagued the Nigerian mass media. The problems range from harsh economic environment, harsh political and social environment, intimidation, assassination, closure, harassment, outright ban, low professionalism, poor rcmuneralion system, unfriendly legal environment, ownership manipulations, incompetence and poor adherence to professional and ethical standard (Tejumaiyc and Adelabu, 2007).

Because of the aforementioned problems, journalists have debased the profession so much. To some Nigerian's media people are looked at as intruders, busy bodies rather than those who mirror truth and national integration, the print media inclusive. Consequently, some journalists have accorded politics, ethnicity, and colouring of facts, ownership influence, bribery and corruption to influence their professional judgement which can pave a way to political or ethnic violence.

According to Odumu (2009:49) "Journalism entails a high degree of public trust, in order to have and maintain this trust, it is morally imperative for every news medium to observe the highest professional and ethical standard" Ethics is a general term as for what is often described as the "science of morality". The Nigerian Press Organization code came into existence in 1979. It comprises Newspaper proprietors Association of Nigeria (NPAN), Nigerian Guilds of Hditors (NGR) and the Nigerian I'nion of Journalists (NUJ). The code of ethics enshrined by the Nigerian press Organization contains eight injunctions, among these injunctions, the first one says the publics are entitled to the truth and that only correct information can form the basis for sound journalism and ensure the confidence of people. (Odumu, 2009). As such, the public have the right to know factual, accurate, balance, and fair reporting. With this, the journalists should put emphasis on public interest in order to enhance national unit), and this reminds the journalists that they should not present or report political violence, terrorist's activities or vulgar display of wealth in a manner that glorifies such acts in the eyes of public.

Causes of Political Violence

Elections have become the mechanism of choice for facilitating change or transitions from authoritarian regime to democratic regime. They also play a crucial role in upholding the rule of law in LI constitutional slate. Despite the role play by democratic regimes in strengthening

rule of law, but to sonic is a mechanism of meeting their political or ethnic interests which often lead to unrest. There are some factors leading to political violence:

Voting Without choosing: Nigeria got independent for more than fifty years and number of elections were conducted since then, but some have the believe that the genera! conception of politics by the practitioner of the art is curiously violent. Fawole (2005:149) views that "A truly representative of government absolutely depends upon integrity of election" Fawole (2005:149) also notes that.

> The vast majority of the Nigerian electorate do not really exercise the power of choice since they are often coerced, intimidated or blackmailed into merely confirming those candidates for office who have been selected for them. Once securely ensconced in the corridors of the stale power, the holders of this operate arbitrary without much in put or even consideration for the wishes, aspirations or sentiments of the electorate. Politicians are often too far removed, remote and distanced from the voters and operate conveniently without them.

Outright Disenfranchisement: Another issue contributing to political violence is the outright disenfranchisement of the mass of people in the formation and operation of political parties, and the establishment of the rules of electoral contest that are patently elitist and discriminatory .

Election Rigging: Mostly in African democratic setting, Nigeria inclusive, ruling parties are usually the most rigging side as they use their powers of incumbency and control over the electoral commission and the information, propaganda and security paraphernalia of the state to ensure that their opponents do not win election. This undoubtedly can instigate our teeming youth roaming the street to challenge the incumbent government. (Fawole, 2005).

Looking at the back, we can understand that the same case happened in the regional election of I960 and 1961, the federal elections of 1965. All of these marred by violence and the second republic witnessed the use of state apparatus, and recently the 2011 April presidential election in Nigeria which led to violence in part of the country.

Politics and Interethnic Socio-Economic Competition: Nnoli (1980:176) opines that "Nigerian politics have presented an image of a struggle among the various ethnic groups for a division of natural resources". In line with this we can understand that Nigerians have come to believe that unless their "own people" are in government they are unable to secure those socio-economic amenities that are disbursed by the government. It is obvious oovemment has decisions about the sitting of industries; the buildin" of roads, award of scholarships and appointment to positions in the public services are closely examined in terms of their benefits to the various ethnic groups in the country. And this can make losers whenever it comes to election take it as do or die affair.

One inescapable conclusion from the proceeding analysis is that in Nigerian democratic setting the electorates are marginalised in the choice of leaders who invariably are neither accountable to them nor removable by them. Government is perceived as a distant contraption that has no relevance for the daily existence of the vast majority of the people since it does not respond to their needs or yearnings.

Media on the other hand play a role in determining the peace in any given democratic setting considering the extent and prominence given to the coverage of political violence. It is noticeable that, whenever election is approaching, Nigerian politicians start frantic preparations for the elections and the whole country will be awash with campaign groups and sponsored newspapers articles touting democracy dividends'. When people now realise what the media are portraying in favour of the politicians does not reflect the truth and see there is no hope, they now take laws into their hands.

Media, Politics and Violence

The media play two crucial roles with respect to election violence. Firstly, they provide evidence-or at least the external implication-that an election is illegitimate or being contested domestically, regardless of the fairness of the election or its certification by independent election commissions and election monitoring organizations. Or a report may imply that the election has not been -free and fairG and has been rigged through voter intimidation or vote-counting fraud. Second, newspapers or television pictures showing compatriots being hurl or killed, the media serve to inform the domestic audience of the risks and dangers of participating in or protesting the election. While graphic images of violence may incite further protests, such protests more often dissipate in response to the risks, especially when the media also cover suppression of protests (likethose in Tiananmen Square. (Mcadov, 2011) or more recently in Liberia, and sometimes officials use the media to threaten violence against protesters.

For instance, Daily Trust and Vanguard had the following headlines: ***"Police kill 4 CPC members in Jos"*** (Daily Trust, 22/Mareh/2011**.p.** 4), ***"Zaria riot: 189 suspects transferred to CID"*** (Daily Trust, 21/April/2011. The Vanguard had the following headlines: ***"Police arrest cleric, 4 others, for defacing Jonathan's poster".*** (Vanguard, March/2011). "***PDP, CPC supporters clash over Sambo*** *news"* (Vanguard, 17/April/2011.

The Daily Trust and Vanguard seemed to have used the same news source with only slight variations in the angles and information they emphasixed. The angles they have chosen, however, have had great implications for the framing of the overall narrative of violence. For example, on the 19 April 2011, The Daily Trust and Vanguard ran with the story **'Nigeria rocked by deadly post-election violence'.** The content in this story was similar to that of a story under the Punch and Guardian 'Jonathan declared winner in Nigeria elections' but how the information is arranged is different. Some opened with a report of an outbreak of post-election rioting in northern Nigerian towns. Makheba (2011), opines that 'The conflict in Nigeria which manifested itself in the post-clcclion violence was announced .as a struggle between the Christian supporters of incumbent Jonathan and the Muslim supporters of Muhammadu Buhari."

On the other hand, both Daily Trust and Vanguard both measure the performance of each of the candidates in relation to a number of the news reports, Jonathan is quoted as calling for national calm and taking charge of the situation, suggesting that he is concerned with solving the regional tensions. While most of the references to Buhari relate to how his party believed that the election was rigged and that at the same time he disassociated himself from the violence. There was also criticism of Jonathan having stood as Presidential candidate in the first place, since there was an agreement within the ruling party that the presidency will rotate between the north and the south of every two presidential terms. Jonathan took over as President in May 2010 after incumbent Umaru Yar'Adua died following a protracted illness. Yar'Adua was from the north, Jonathan was from the south. /Many people therefore believe a

northerner should be nominated to take power at the 2011 election. (Makheba, 2011). From the outset, the focus of the news reports revolved around "who is doing what to whom with what effect" rather than focusing on the antecedents of the conflict which led to the violence. A large portion of news reports from both the newspapers dedicated more coverage to the effects of the causal agents, the youth who, on the whole, presented as Buhari supporters.

The coverage of some newspapers docs two things; firstly, it has painted the Muslim youth as a group of young radicals who resort only to violence in expressing their will and links Buhari to these acts, presenting his supporters as having reacted violently. Secondly, some say no- the POP rotation of power agreement caused the violence, because thcy'bclicve that a northerner should be the one to take the power. In effect, the youth are further presented as incited team, their actions having been sparked by other people urging them to act. In President Jonathan's speeches urging the community to quell the conflict, he appeals to political leaders to stop the conflict and not the youth themselves. The news texts do not bring into question the problems faced by the youth, which may have elicited such violent responses.

As the BBC reports, Muhammad Ashafa, an imam who promotes inter-religious dialogue in Nigeria with Pastor James Wuye said: Religion has been one of the major instruments used and abused by politicians, particularly if they are losing, in order to win favour (Mbubaegu, 2011).

It can he deduced from the aforementioned issues that carrying everybody alone is a vital aspect of politics; The media of communication are always being utiliZed by politicians, diplomats and statesmen in pursuance of their political objectives. Liman, 20(18). The media of mass communication have over the years been taken seriously by politicians, of course, communication taken as a whole, is incomprehensible without reference to its political dimension. Politics to use the word in the "elevated" sense has an indissoluble relationship with communication (MacBride, I980:18)

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Theoretical Framework

Political violence represents an aspect, though a negative and dangerous one of our political reality. Because there are hardly a day people do not read, sec or hear a report about one form of political violence or the other. (Agubamah, 2008). The Agenda-setting theory is considered relevant to this study.

Agenda-Setting Theory: Is about the idea that the media have the potential for structuring issues for the public (Littlcjohn and Foss, 2008). This theory originated from the work of Waller Lipmann, a prominent American journalist. Lipmann took the view that the public respond not to actual events in the environment but to the "pictures in our heads". Donald Shaw and Maxwell McCombs cited in (Litllejohn and Foss,2008), describing the agenda-setting function role that "Considerable evidence has accumulated that editors and broadcasters play an important pait in shaping our social reality as they go about their day-to-day task of choosing and displaying news"

According to Baran and Davis (2005:279) "The press is significantly more than a purveyor of information and opinion-it may not be successful much of the lime in telling people what to think, but it is stunningly successful in telling its readers what to think about" .Based on this assertion we can say people interpret what they read differently such as political issues and crises not only on their personal interests, but also on the map that is drawn for them by

writers, editors and publishers of the papers they read (Cohen, 1963 cited in Baran and Davis, 2005).

Agenda-setting occurs because the media must be selective in reporting the news as gatekeepers of information who make choices about what to report and how to report it (Littlejohn & Foss, 2008). Here we can deduct that issues reported about election results may have more effect on the reaction of the people than the politicians' campaign itself.

Methodology

The methodology employed in this researeh is content analysis, which could be defined as. a quantitative researeh method that brings both data collection method to measure the occurrence of some identifiable elements in a complete text or set of messages (Keylon, 200J). The researeher selected two national newspapers; a northern based newspaper and western based newspaper (Daily Trust and Vanguard).Thc Vanguard and Daily Trust newspapers were purposivcly selected for content analysis. These were: (a) Vanguard of Mareh, April and May, 2011 (b) Daily Trust of Mareh, April and May, 2011, Out of the 92 editions of the three months (Mareh, April, and May 2011) of the Daily Trust 78 were available. Also for the Vanguard newspaper out of 92 editions of the 3 months period of study, 72 were available.

Unit of Analysis: The unit of analysis adopted for the study were news stories, Features, letters, editorials and opinion.

Content Categories: The categories were; placement, size, period of coverage and sources.

- Source: refers to where the stories emanated; source here categorize into federal government, state, local government, police, politicians, individuals, corporate groups or NGOs.
- Placement: prominence given to the coverage of political violence. This could be front, back or inside pages.
- Size: This could be full page, half page or one-quarter page. This was used to measure the depth accorded to the political violence coverage.

Data Presentation

Table 1: Coverage of Political Violence (Mareh-May)

Nature of Coverage	**Daily trust**		**Vanguard**	
Months	F	%	F	%
Mareh	51	28.49	90	52.94
April	108	60.33	59	34.70
May	20	11.17	21	12.35
Total	179	99.99	170	99.99

Table 1 above shows the political violence coverage content analysed for the months of Mareh, April and May, 2011 by Daily Trust. April had the highest coverage. Also, ihe table shows the Vanguard's coverage of political violence content analysed for the month of Mareh, April and May 2011. The table signifies that out of a total number of 170 political violence coverage found in the Vanguard, 52.94% items were covered in Mareh, 34.70% covered in April, and 12.35% covered in May.

Table 2: Types of Coverage

Types of Reports	Daily Trust		Vanguard	
	1	%	F	%
News Stones	77	43.01	82	48.23
Features	30	16.75	31	18.23
Opinion	30	16.75	25	14.70
Letters	6	1.11	10	5.88
Editorials	4	3.35	2	1.17
Others	32	18.99	20	11.76
Total	**179**	**99.96**	**170**	**99.97**

The above table 2 shows the types of coverage, whether the coverage is news report, features, opinion, letters or editorials. Daily Trust covered most of the reports as news stories. The table also indicates that most of the reports covered by Vanguard were placed in news stories with 48.23%, features 18.23%, opinion 14.70%, letters 5.88%, editorial 1.17% and others carried 11.76%.

Table 3: Source of the reports

Sources of the coverage	Daily Trust		Vanguard	
Source	**F**	**%**	**F**	**%**
Fed. Govt.	10	5.58	25	14.70
State Govt.	13	7.26	20	11.76
Individuals	7	3.91	30	17.64
Security Agents	60	33.51	59	34.70
NGOs	30	16.75	-	-
INHC	20	11.17	9	5.29
Political Panics	20	11.17	15	8.82
Others	12	7.26	12	6.47
Total	**179**	**99.96**	**170**	**99.38**

The above table shows the Daily Trust origin of the contents (source). It shows whether the report originated from the Federal Government, State, Local Governments, individuals, security Agents, IN EC, political parties or NGOs. Similarly, from Vanguard side the table shows that out of the total number of items content analysed on political violence covered 14.709?' originated from Federal Government, 1 1.76% state, 17.64% individuals, 34.70% security agents, INEC 5.29%, political parties 8.82% while othcr sources have 6.47%.

Table 4: Placement of Content

Placement of Coverage	Daily Trust		Vanguard	
Placement	**F**	**%**	**F**	**%**
Front Page	59	32.96	38	22.35
Inside Page	120	67.03	132	77.64
Back Patzc	-	-	-	-
Total	**179**	**99.63**	**170**	**99.98**

Table 4 above shows the Daily Trust placement of the political violence report in the newspaper, it tells how many items are placed at the front page, back page or inside pages. The results show that an overwhelming number of the coverage (67.03%) were placed in the inside pages (32.96%) received front page, while no item was placed at back page. The table shows Vanguard placement, out of the total number of political violence coverage found in the 3 months editions of vanguard newspaper, 22.35% were in the front page, while 77.64% were in the inside pages, non was in the back page.

Table 5: Page Sizes

Page sizes	**Daily Trust**		**Vanguard**	
Size	**F**	**%**	**F**	**%**
Half Page	50	27.93	24	14.11
Full Page	30	16.75	61	35.88
Quarter Page	71	39.66	70	41.17
Others	28	15.64	15	8.82
Total	179	99.98	170	99.98

According to table 5, out of 179 number of political violence found in the 3 months editions of Daily Trust, 27.93 occupied half page, 16.75 full page, 39.66 percent occupied quarter page, and 15.64% others.

The table above also indicates that out of the total number of 170 coverage of political violence within the three months editions of vanguard newspaper, 14. 11% occupied half page, 35. 88% full page, quarter has 41.17, while others 8.82%.

Discussion of Findings

The findings show that Daily Trust reported more on political violence than Vanguard; even though the gap in tlie reportage given by the two newspapers is not significant. The Daily Trust editions of the three months carried a total of one hundred and seventy nine reports (179) on political violence, out of this, 33.51% originated from security agents, followed by NGOs (16.75%), INEC and political parties with 11.17%, then state government and others equally with 7.26% each.

While the Vanguard coverage of political violence within the three months of study earned a total number of one hundred and seventy issues (170), out of this, 34.70% originated from security agents, followed by individuals with 17.64%, the Federal Government (14.70), State Government 11.76%, political parties (8.82%), while INEC had 5.29%.

The newspapers used the straight news format most in the reportage of political violence. For instance, Daily trust with 43.01% of news report and vanguard with 48.23% of news report. It thus means that the newspapers were more concerned or, delivering the news on political violence to the public as first-hand information.

Responding to the earlier raise researeh questions on whether there is any kind of seriousness accorded to the coverage of political violence by the Daily Trust and Vanguard Newspapers, the study revealed that is greater percentage of the information source of both paper under study were security sources (Daily Trust 33.51% and Vanguard 34.70%) which signifies

aptiness and cautiousness exhibited by the media in covering events related to political violence.

Responding to the question on the "Role of Daily Trust and Vanguard Newspaper in tackling 2011 political violence" it can be seen from the space provided in the placement of the News stories ie. Insert pages taking higher percentage of 67.03% Daily Trust and 77.64% Vanguard which provides room for index treatment of the subject matter as indicated in table 4. So also, in response to the questions demanding for the existence of either objective or subjective coverage on 2011 political violence. The study revealed that is the finding is objective because it gives attention to the coverage on the event that happened in the society but the media are subjective because most of the News stories are place on the inside pages scoring 67.03% Daily Trust and 77.64% Vanguard, and also allocated quarter pages for Daily Trust (39.6%) and Vanguard (41.17%) on the page size placement.

However, media on the other hand play a role in determining the peace in any given democratic setting which can be understood through the extent and prominence given to the coverage of political violence. It is noticeable element that, when election is approaching Nigerian politicians start frantic preparations for the elections and the whole country will be awash with campaign groups and sponsored newspapers articles touting democracy dividends, while often with the portrayal of clashes between some party mcmbers.(Nnoli, 1980).

Again, Political violence represents an aspect, though a negative and dangerous one of our political rcalily. Because there are hardly a day people do not read, see or hear a report about one form of political violence or the other. Agenda-setting occurs because the media must be selective in reporting the news as gatekeepers of information who make choices about what to report and how to report it (Littlejohn & Foss, 2008).

Similarly, people interpret what they read differently such as political issues and crises not only on their personal interests, but also on the map that is drawn for them by writers, editors and publishers of the papers they read. (Cohen, 1963 cited in Baran and Davis, 2005).

Conclusion

If we look at the coverage given to the political violence within the three months of the study by the newspapers, we can conclude that the newspapers consistently reported the issues without significant difference existed in their coverage; even though there are slight differences in the angle they have taken. Despite the prominence given to the coverage by the newspapers they emphasised more on behavioural part of the violence rather than the causes.

Considering the nature of" the newspapers coverage, ihe news stories got the highest frequency, because straight news gives issues in piece and meal and docs not allow for a comprehensive report. Feature is more appropriate for narrating the causes of the violence or given in-depth analysis and background information.

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Appendix
Daily Trust Reportage-Dateline of Political Killings (Mareh 13, 2011. Page 8)

Date	Deaths	Injured	Party	Cause	State
DEC. 4	2	7	Party thugs from Karofi clashed with those from kofardumi . quarters	Political rivalry	BAUCHI
DEC. 1 1		20	CPC	Thugs clashed during ward congress in Anguwar Sarki, Kaduna	KADUNA
DEC 15	1		PDF Chairman Adamawa state Alh. Tafida Umar	Shot to dead in his home	ADAMAWA
DEC. 18	1	4	CPC	Primary election Bauchi	BAUCHI
DEC. IS		10	POP	Political rivalry between Sen. Dahiru Bako and Alh. Abubakar at Govt. Suntai rally	TARABA
DEC. 22	1	2	PDP/PLP	Thugs clashed during bye-election into moba state constituency in Otun ward	EKITI
DEC 23	10	10	PDP	Cultural troupe on their way to entertain president Jonathan at an event	BAUCHI
DEC. 28		l.YYahyya Bello of Wurrno LG.	Party thugs	Hands chopped off	SOKOTO
DEC. 30	3 Including AlhLaleef Salako	2	PDF	Ward congress at Olunlayo Ota LG.	OYO STATE
JAN. 2		7	PDF	Thugs	OYO STATE
JAN. 4	2	20	PDP/PRN	Gub. Re-elc. Run	DELTA

JAN. 4	3		RIVAL PARTIES	Fired inside a cinema	BORNO
JAN. 4	l.Baba ability	1	PDF	Party Primary	NIGER
JAN. 5		I.Mrs. Mayoma Owoeye	PDF/CAN	PARTY THUGS	OS UN
JAN. 7	6	5	PDP/PLP	PARTY THUGS	BAYELSA
JAN. 10	l.Datti Ahmad		PDP/CPC	Argument, RingimL.g.	J1GAWA
JAN. 12	6		CAN	PARTY PRIMARY	EDO
JAN. 28	7		ANPP	AT MOSQUE	BORNO
FEB. 9	2 Children	4	CPC	Protest againt Almakura's arrest	NASARAW A
FEB. 12	11	32	PDF	Stampede during president Jonathan's campaign in PortHareourt	RIVERS
FEB. 12		7	LP/CAN	Clash in Idanre LG.	ON DO
FEB. 15		6	PDP/ANPP	Clash inTsafe L.G.	ZAMFARA
FEB. 16		5	CPC/PDP	Clash in Sambawa town	KEBBI
FEB. 23		2	CPC/PDP	Clash in Yauri and Zagga town	KEBBI
FEB. 24	*5*	15	POLITICAL CAMPAIGN	Bus somersaulted while coming back from a gathering	OYO
FEB. 24	*4*		POLITICAL CAMPAIGN	Head on collision on their way back dorm political gathering	ONDO
MAREH 3	10	25	PDF	Rally in Suleja	NIGER
MAREH 3	12	21	LP	Political Rally	PLATEAU
MAREH 8		2-Gen. Lawence Onoja and Alh. Abubakar Usman-Young Alhaji	Campaign	Shot	BENUE
TOTAL	86	209			