

Nigeria: Kaduna Boils Over Miss World Pageant



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Kaduna — Religious fanatics sack peace in Kaduna over a media publication on the Miss World beauty pageant. Everyone who knows the country's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Hon. Dubem Onyia, will attest to the fact that he is usually a composed man. He is articulate too. But he lost all of that last month during the Miss World media parley held at the Eko L'emeridian Hotel, Lagos. The event was a chat between government and journalists on the Miss World 2002 beauty contest which the country is hosting for the first time in her history. Conspicuous at the gathering were foreign journalists, especially of the Western extraction. As if it was a game plan, the journalists took turn to ask the minister about the safety of their ladies who are in the country for the pageant. As the minister answered one question, not satisfied with his response, another foreign journalist repeated the same question using other words. Onyia was visibly harassed as it became very obvious that the minister was struggling to remain collected as the foreign journalists stole the show.