

Bandits Kill Six Farmers In Kaduna



kaduna map

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Six farmers were killed by suspected bandits on Monday in Kujijiro farmlands, Kuyello District of Birnin Gwari Local Government Area of Kaduna State, sparking fresh concerns over insecurity in the area.

The victims were reportedly attacked and killed, while working on their farms, according to the Birnin Gwari Emirate Progressives Union (BEPU), which described the incident as tragic and disturbing.

In a statement issued by its chairman, Dr Isah Muhammad, the union expressed deep sorrow over the killings and condemned the attack in strong terms.

The group said the latest incident had once again plunged communities in Birnin Gwari into grief and fear, noting that Kuyello and several other communities in the eastern part of the emirate have continued to witness attacks despite efforts aimed at restoring peace.

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“Six innocent farmers were mercilessly attacked and killed while carrying out their lawful farming activities,” the statement said.

BEPU warned that the continued attacks on farmers and rural communities pose a serious threat to the fragile peace and stability that residents of Birnin Gwari have struggled to achieve in recent years.

According to the union, no part of the emirate should be neglected in ongoing efforts to secure lasting peace, stressing that insecurity in any section of Birnin Gwari affects the entire community.

The group emphasised that the people of Birnin Gwari share a common history and destiny, regardless of whether they reside in the eastern, western or central parts of the emirate.

“As long as any part of Birnin Gwari remains unsafe, true peace cannot be said to exist,” the statement added.

The union also expressed concern that persistent attacks on farming communities could discourage many farmers from returning to their farms during the current farming season.

It warned that such a development could negatively affect food production, increase food prices and worsen economic hardship across Kaduna State and other parts of northern Nigeria.

BEPU therefore called on the Federal Government and the Kaduna State Government to take urgent and practical measures to tackle criminal groups operating in the area.

The union specifically appealed to the Minister of Defence, the National Security Adviser, the Nigerian Armed Forces, the Nigeria Police Force and other security agencies to intensify security operations in Kuyello and neighbouring communities.

It said residents deserve to live peacefully, cultivate their farms and conduct their daily activities without fear of attacks.

The group also urged the Kaduna State Government to strengthen security presence in eastern Birnin Gwari and provide the necessary support needed to protect lives and property.

While sympathising with the families of the deceased farmers, the union prayed for the repose of their souls and comfort for their loved ones.

“Our hearts go out to the families of those who lost their loved ones in this painful attack,” the statement said.

BEPU further appealed to residents, particularly farmers and community members, to remain calm, united and law-abiding, while continuing to cooperate with security agencies by providing useful information that could assist in addressing insecurity.

The union reaffirmed its commitment to working with government authorities, security agencies and other stakeholders to ensure that Birnin Gwari does not return to the era of widespread killings, kidnappings and fear that once characterised the area.

The Government and the State Police Command have not yet released an official statement on the incident as of the time of filing the report.

The police Public Relations Officer, DSP Mansur Hassan, couldn't be reached for comment.