

Five dead, eight hospitalised after eating meat in Taraba

Terna Chikpa February 25, 2026

At least five people have been confirmed dead, while eight others have been hospitalised after eating suspected poisoned meat in Takum Local Government Area of Taraba State.

The Taraba State Police Command confirmed the incident on Wednesday in Jalingo.

In a press statement released by the command's Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Victor Mshelizah, the victims from three different families consumed the meat on Tuesday during a Ramadan lecture, after which five died.

According to the statement, the remaining eight victims are currently receiving treatment at different hospitals in the area, while an investigation has already commenced to ascertain the cause of the incident.

The police disclosed that preliminary investigations indicate that the victims may have unknowingly eaten meat contaminated with a toxic substance believed to have been used for rodent control.

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"The eight affected individuals are currently receiving treatment at various hospitals in the area, while the remains of the deceased have been evacuated for necessary procedures.

"A comprehensive investigation is now underway to unravel the circumstances behind the tragic event," the statement added.

The command urged members of the public to remain vigilant and promptly report any suspicious food items, sudden illnesses, or related incidents to security agencies to avert further tragedy.