

Gunmen kill 3 mourners, kidnap 2 in fresh Benue attack

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By Rapheal



From **Scholastica Hir**, Makurdi

Gunmen suspected to be herdsmen militia have killed three persons and abducted two others in Sati-Ikov District of Ushongo Local Government, Benue State.

The attack occurred barely two weeks after a similar incident in the area that claimed one life and left several residents injured.

Deputy Majority Chief Whip of the Benue State House of Assembly, Dr. Simon Gabo, confirmed the incident to journalists in Makurdi. He identified those killed as Bem Msughter, Aondo Chia-Mbamegh, Daa-Ikov, and Sunday Terwase.

According to him, those abducted include: Aondongu Amos, a Point of Sale (POS) operator, and Arinze Igbo, a patent medicine trader.

Gabo said the attackers also stole two motorcycles and other valuables, while several properties were destroyed during the assault. He recalled that a similar attack two weeks ago led to the death of one Ayangealumun Chilen, while others sustained gunshot injuries.

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“According to information from my constituents, the victims had attended a burial ceremony and were ambushed by armed men on their way back,” he said.

“The attackers shot three of them dead, robbed others, and abducted two persons.”

Gabo attributed the recurring attacks to armed groups crossing from neighbouring Katsina-Ala Local Government Area through River Katsina-Ala. He said security operatives have been deployed to the area following reports of the incident.

The lawmaker condemned the attack and urged residents to remain calm and law-abiding. He also pledged to collaborate with security agencies, traditional rulers, and government officials to investigate the incident and prevent a recurrence.

Gabo expressed sympathy with the affected families and assured that efforts were underway to bring the perpetrators to justice.

Efforts to reach the Police Public Relations Officer, Udeme Edet, for comment were unsuccessful as of the time of filing this report.