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GUNMEN KILL FIVE IN BENUE

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Unknown gunmen on Monday night killed five persons and carted away 43 cows belonging to a catholic diocese in Ichama-Okpokwu local government area of Benue State.

Police spokesman, Daniel Ezeala, confirmed only one person died in the attack and 43 cows abducted by the gunmen.

But local sources said one dead body was discovered yesterday morning at the church premises, place of the attack while the other four bodies were allegedly whisked away to unknown destination.

Chairman of the local council Juliana Obeta said the sudden attack proved last week unconfirmed reports of threats by some faceless herders to cause mischief in the rural Ichama community true.

"Unfortunately, the herders on Monday night killed one person and carted away 40 cows belonging to Otukpo catholic diocese which was kept at Ichama's church yard", he said.

On his part, Secretary of the Myetti Allah Cattle Rearers Association, Garus Gololo, debunked the allegation that the gunmen were suspected Fulani herdsmen, saying the Fulani people have mutual relationship with the Ichamas' such that warranted no dispute, let alone killing.

Meanwhile, the police said it is on trail of the criminals but no arrest has been made.

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