

THE WORLD NEWS II

2 motorcycle riders killed along Pai road

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Residents of Pai community in Kwali Area Council of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) were on Tuesday evening thrown into mourning after two indigenes of the community, identified as Haruna Bala and Isah Dangana, were shot dead by some suspected gunmen along Pai road, in Kwali.

City News learnt that a Fulani man and another indigene of the community, who were also on a motorcycle on their way to Pai village, were shot on their legs by the suspected gunmen and were lying critically ill at a private clinic at Kwali town. A security man at a farm along the road, who did not want his name mentioned, said the incident happened around 7p.m. when the deceased were returning from Gwagwalada, on their way to Pai village on a motorcycle and the gunmen opened fire on them.

He said the gunmen, who were four in number hid inside a bush by the road side, along Pai village, about a kilometer away from the Abuja-Lokoja express way, from where they shot the two motorcycle riders.

"It was the sound of the gun shots that attracted my attention to the spot, where I saw three young men and a Fulani man lying by the road side in a pool of their blood. Before the police later came, two of them died on the spot," he said.

Another resident, who craved anonymity, complained of incessant robbery attacks along the road, especially by suspected motorcycle snatchers, who attacked cyclists at night.

"Just two weeks ago, two motorcycles were snatched at gunpoint along Pai road, while last week again, another motorcycle was snatched on the same road, which is quite disturbing," he said.

City News gathered that the two persons killed were staffers of a rice mill at Gwagwalada, who were returning to Pai village after closing from work.

It was however learnt that the corpses were taken to Kwali divisional police headquarters that evening, and then to Pai village for burial after the corpses were identified by relatives.

The chairman of the council, Mr. Ibrahim Daniel, represented by the council's legal liaison officer, Alhaji Haruna Pai, who spoke at the burial of the two deceased, expressed shock over the incident.

He urged the families of the deceased to take the loss in good faith and prayed for the repose of the souls of the deceased, while urging the police division to investigate the incidents in order to fish out those behind the attacks.

"On our part, the council would not rest on its oars to ensure that lives and property of residents of Kwali Area Council are protected. And we would continue to give our support to security and the vigilante members to checkmate any form of crime in the area," the chairman said.

Effort to reach the Kwali Divisional Police Officer (DPO) over the incident was unsuccessful, but a police officer at the division confirmed the incident, saying the two corpses have been released to relatives for burial, while police has commenced investigation into the attack.

He disclosed that a Fulani man and one other person that sustained bullet wounds were receiving treatment at a hospital at Kwali.