



Tuesday, October 24, 2017

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Killing of four members: Cattle**Breeders petition Enugu CP**

By Tony Adibe, Enugu | Publish Date: Oct 24 2017 8:16AM

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The Miyetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association of Nigeria (MACBAN), Enugu State Chapter has petitioned the state Commissioner of Police over the gruesome murder of their three members allegedly by armed men who hide under the guise of neighbourhood watch in Ezeagu Local Government Area of the state.

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In a two-page petition entitled, “Letter of Protest” dated October 23, 2017 jointly signed by the southeast zonal chairman Alhaji Gidado Siddiki, state chairman of the association Haruna and the Ardo of Enugu State, Ardo Ibrahim Umar, the members recalled that on October 20, 2017, some gun men came under the guise of neighbourhood watch attacked and killed three of their members namely, Lawan Bello, Yahaya Manu and his brother Isiaka Manu. The petition which was submitted to the office of the CP Monday was made available to our reporter.

Also, the MACBAN members recalled that “on August 17, 2017, people under the guise of neighbourhood watch, again attacked and killed one Ibrahim Jibrin at Amanco community in the same Ezeagu local Government Area.”

According to Siddiki, the incident occurred at Ihuonya and Amanco village in Ezeagu Local Government of the state, adding that the deceased persons were examined by a medical doctor who confirmed them dead before they were buried according to Islamic rite.

He also remembered that on July 22, 2017, some other men came in the guise of neighbourhood watch at Madim Olo community in Ezeagu council area and attacked and dispersed one Umar Jae’s cattle numbering fifteen and up till date nobody has found any of the cows.

They said that although the state government had prohibited anybody from possession of guns, those who attacked and killed their members were well armed with guns.

“We implore the authority to provide a working modality for our helpless members on how to protect themselves in the jungles where they graze their cattle,” the MACBAN stated, adding that “Our members are helpless; they suffered a lot of intimidation and harassment in the hands of the aforementioned hoodlums, on several occasions.”

Asking the CP to ensure that the perpetrators of the wicked killings of their members would be brought to book and enable the victims’ families obtain justice, the cattle breeders also appealed to the CP to “use your good office to rescue us from this hostile people.”

They also asked the CP for an order to ensure that the leaders of those communities where the crimes were committed be summoned for a round table discussion to enable both the cattle



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breeders sign an MoU with their hosts “in your presence on how our members will operate in their land.”

Meanwhile, Enugu state Commissioner for Human Capital Development and Poverty Reduction, Obinna Mbaeke told Daily Trust confirmed the incident in a telephone interview but emphasised that the combination of the leadership of the communities and the police with civil defence are investigating the matter. “I went to where the cattle breeders settle at 9th Mile Corner, Enugu and I called the DSS, Civil Defence, traditional rulers and others who also were there. We saw the corpses and we commiserated with the members. But we insisted that the police should investigate to determine who committed the killings actually,” Mbaeke said. End

Killing , Cattle , Breeders , Enugu , CP

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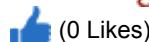
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