

# Gunmen kill 5 in Benue communities

From Hope Abah Emmanuel, Makurdi

A total of five people have been allegedly killed by gunmen early hours of Sunday in separate incidences in two local government areas of Benue State.

Our correspondent gathered that three persons of the number were hacked down by gunmen who broke into the home of Inna Jato,

a former state lawmaker representing Kastina-Ala East constituency in Nagu village in Kastina-Ala LGA of the state.

It was learnt that the remaining two people which brought the number to five were suspected to have been killed in a cult-related rivalry at Naka rural town of Gwer West LGA.

Witnesses said several others were wounded in

the two occurrences while property was destroyed and many houses burnt by the gunmen at the ex-lawmaker's village in Kastina-Ala.

Chief Press Secretary to the Council Chairman of Kastina-Ala, Tertsea Benga, said he could confirm three people killed in the attack on the lawmaker's house at the time of sending this report. According to him, the incident had happened at night.

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer PPRO DSP Catherine Anene confirmed the death of five people in both incidents but said she was yet to get details on the Kastina-Ala homicide.

Anene posited that three persons - a man, his wife, and child, were killed in the Kastina-Ala incident while that of Naka involved two young people bringing the number to five.

"On 27/12/2020 at about 1am, a gunshot was heard in High-Level area of Naka town and police officers were deployed to the area. Two persons were arrested at the scene of the crime while two young men were found in a pool of blood. Victims were rushed to hospital but confirmed dead. Five more suspects have been arrested and the investigation is still in progress," the PPRO added.

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