

OPC kills community leader, 3 herders in Oyo

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Four Fulani herders among them
a community leader have been
killed by suspected members of
Oodua Peoples Congress (OPC) in Oyo
State on Monday.

Some sources said the assailants,
wearing T-shirts with OPC inscription
and carrying weapons, stormed
Elekokan in Igangan in Ibarapa North
Local Government Area where they
shot the victims to death.

The attack was launched less than
24 hours after the Yoruba leaders in
the community accused some Fulani
herders of killing some people and
burning their houses in Igangan.

Our correspondents gathered that
during Monday's reprisal, four Fulani
herders were killed at Elekokan village.

The victims included; Alhaji Dako
Usman (60), Bello Sulaiman (36),
Alhaji Adamu (45) and the 75-year-old
community leader known as Seriki.

Sources said about 30 members of
OPC invaded the village on motorbikes
and attacked the herders.

One of our sources said the OPC
members stormed the village with
different firearms and other weapons,
killed the four people and injured many
others in what appeared as a deliberate
move to sack the herders from their
dwellings.

Our source said the case was reported
to the police while the corpses of the
victims have been deposited at Fadoks,
a private morgue in Iseyin.

When contacted, the Oyo State
Police Public Relations Officer, Adewale
Osifeso, denied the incident but said
police officers had been deployed to
the axis.

"I am not aware of this information.
Police and other security agencies
are already on the ground in the
communities," he said.

However, another credible security
source confirmed the incident saying
the Ayete Police Division in Ibarapa
North had received information from
Elekokan Police Station that about
30 assailants wearing clothes with
OPC inscription attacked Fulani
communities and killed four people.

The leaders of Miyetti Allah Cattle
Breeders Association of Nigeria
(MACBAN) in Oyo and Ogun states told
one of our correspondents that OPC
members had been attacking Fulani
communities since Sunday's attack on
Igangan.

MACBAN's chairman in Oyo, Alhaji
Ibrahim Abubakar Jiji, told *Daily Trust*
that they were trying to recover the
bodies of the Fulani herders killed by
the OPC members.

"As I am talking to you, we are at
the mortuary. They killed four people
including the Fulani community
leader. I am making a passionate
appeal to security agencies to conduct
security meeting with the traditional
rulers in the region and Fulani leaders
for peace to reign," he said.

His counterpart in Ogun State, Alhaji
Ibrahim Abubakar Dende, condemned
the attack on their people who he said
had no hand in the recent security
breach in Oyo.

He also urged the authorities to do a
thorough investigation and fish out the
perpetrators of Monday's assault.

"The Fulani settlers in Oyo and
neighbouring Ogun states are not
happy with the attack. We don't know
anything about the attack but it
appears we have become the target



■ IGP Baba

of some OPC members who are now
attacking us in a manner that appears
to be a misdirected reprisal.

"Apart from the people killed, the
house of Alhaji Sajo, an Islamic cleric
who has been in Igangan town for over
sixty years was attacked on Monday
and he was abducted.

"Some are saying they have killed
him and burnt the corpse to ashes.

"His storey building was set ablaze.
He is not a herder; he is a cleric who
attends to people from Lagos and Ogun
states. He is more of Yoruba as he has
been with them for long," he said.

Daily Trust reports that the OPC
members who are among various
groups agitating for Oduduwa
Republic have resorted to violence of
recent. They launched an attack at the
Idiroko international land border last
week.

I'm not behind Igangan attacks - Evicted Sarkin Fulani

The Sarkin Fulani of Oyo State, Alhaji
Saliu Abdulkadir, who was evicted from
his Igangan palace four months ago, has
denied media reports that he is behind
the fresh attack on Igangan community.

The Sarkin Fulani, who condemned
the attacks, tasked security agencies
to do their job in arresting the
perpetrators.

His call for a thorough investigation
came few days after the Asigangan of
Igangan, Oba Lasisi Adeoye, accused
him of sending assailants to his domain.

Daily Trust reports that the Aare Ona
Kakanfo of Yorubaland, Gani Adams,
had accused Fulani herders with active
support of their leaders of carrying out
the attack on Igangan, a development
many observers said could have
emboldened the OPC members to stage
a reprisal on the nearby community.

Adams had warned Fulani herdsmen
to stay away from the South-West or be
ready to face stiff resistance.

He also alleged that the attack was
clear indication that the North had
waged war against the South-West.

Speaking on the allegations,
Abdulkadir, who spoke with one of our
correspondents, said it was wrong to
have linked the attacks to him.

He said many herders also suffered
casualties during the attacks and even
said one Fulani man who was neither
a cattle rearer nor trader and who had
been living in Igangan since the 60s was
killed on Monday in reprisal attack on
several Fulani settlements.

The Sarki stressed that he had
no hand in the attacks and had no
mercenary anywhere who would attack
people on his behalf.

He said since his eviction from the

community by armed youths led by
Sunday Igboho, he has lost fortunes
garnered over several decades.

He said, "They killed my people,
destroyed my properties. I know
nothing about the attacks. If I had the
mercenaries, I would have defended
myself when my palace was invaded by
Sunday Igboho and his men.

"I have lost everything. I have been
living from hand to mouth. I don't have
any mercenaries fighting for me. I leave
everything in the hand of God."

The evicted Sarkin Fulani who
is currently in Ilorin, Kwara State,
blamed the attack on failure of security
agencies, saying if the security agencies
had been proactive, it would not have
occurred.

Abdulkadir insisted that the unrest
in Ibarapa was worsened by ethnic
profiling where only Fulani herders
were tagged as criminals.

He said on many occasions, the
Yoruba were arrested for kidnapping
and other criminalities in Ibarapa zone
but their arrests never got prominence
because they were not Fulani herders.

He said since his eviction in January,
Fulani herders have been living in
fear in the communities in Ibarapa
including Aiyete, Tapa and Igangan,
adding that he has advised those who
are afraid to flee and refrain from taking
the law into their hands.

Allow Amotekun carry AK-47 - Makinde

Governor Seyi Makinde of Oyo State
on Tuesday visited Igangan, the scene
of Sunday's attack.

Before the visit, Makinde had
presented a keynote address at the
opening of a two-day 2021 Governor
Seyi Makinde National Democracy
Summit, with the theme 'The Future
of Democracy in Nigeria,' held at the
International Conference Centre,
University of Ibadan.

He lamented that calling governors
chief security officers of their states,
without having power to command
federal security agencies in their
respective states to attend to security
situation without clearance from Abuja
was frustrating.

Makinde said: "With what happened
at Igangan, the people can hold me
responsible for letting them down and
when I go there, I will take responsibility
because those killings were really
needless.

"Even though I continue to take
responsibility for the security situation
in Oyo State, we all know that, in reality,
the commissioner of police has to wait
for orders from 'above' before taking
specific actions to benefit the local
population.

"So, looking at the federal security
agencies here in Oyo State, they have
to get clearance from the federal
government. We will continue to do our
best.

"Here in the South-West, we were
able to kickstart Amotekun. But even
with Amotekun, people ask how the
killings happened. Were they not there?
But we have several limitations to what
Amotekun can do and even the firearms
they can carry.

"You have Dane guns and you are
faced with people carrying AK-47. If it is
in terms of investment, if we are given
the authority, I will also buy AK-47 for
Amotekun, if given the license.

"State policing is a sure cure to our
national development challenges.
Anyone who has been involved in
security at any level will tell you that
policing is local.

"One of the reasons why the

Western Nigeria Security Network,
code-named Amotekun, is recording
success is because members of the
corps are drawn from the locality. They
know the terrain and so can gather
needed intelligence. Also, they can be
held accountable by the local people
because they know them.

"So, when state governors become
the actual chief security officers in
charge of the security personnel in
their states, they can quickly respond to
security challenges," he said.

Herders' settlement razed in Ogun

A settlement of some herders at Iraye
village in Sagamu, Ogun State, has been
razed down by the locals, following
allegations of kidnapping.

Daily Trust gathered that some locals
at Iraye, a village located behind NNPC
Mosimi in Sagamu, had accused some
Fulani settlers of being the brains
behind the abduction of their people in
the area.

Sources told our correspondent that
the indigenes on Monday evening
stormed the Fulani base and set it
ablaze.

One person was reportedly injured in
the attack, while others scampered for
safety.

Our correspondent gathered that in a
video clip which has gone viral, a voice
was heard claiming that a farmer was
abducted by some Fulani in the area.

The voice claimed that attempt to
rescue the victim led to confrontation
between the villagers and the Fulani
abductors.

MACBAN chairman in the state,
Abdulummin Ibrahim Dende,
confirmed the incident to *Daily Trust*
on Tuesday.

Ibrahim said about five houses
were burnt in the settlement while
the affected Fulanis have temporarily
relocated. He said no one died during
the attack.

He said: "Some people called me in
respect of the incident around 9pm last
night that a Fulani settlement was razed
down at a village in Sagamu. They said
the incident was as a result of an alleged
kidnapping case."

IPOB killed 128 military, police personnel - Army

The Nigerian Army on Monday
disclosed that the Eastern Security
Network (ESN) set up by the proscribed
Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) has
killed 128 military and police personnel,
as well as 15 civil defence officers, and
31 community policing members in the
South-East.

The army also disclosed that the
group had killed over 100 civilians who
refused to support its activities.

The Brigade Commander of 34
Artillery Brigade, Obinze, Owerri, Imo
State, Brig. Gen. Raymond Utsaha,
made the revelation in Owerri, Imo State
capital, at a joint press conference he
organised with the state Commissioner
of Police, Abutu Yaro.

According to him, the hoodlums
masquerading as 'unknown gunmen'
have killed no fewer than 150 security
operatives and civilians in the South-
East zone.

The army chief said no "responsible
government" would allow such
"criminal elements" to continue to have
their way.

Utsaha disclosed that the gunmen
killed 78 police officers, 38 army
officers, five Naval officers, seven Air
Force officers, 15 Nigeria Security and
Civil Defence officers, 31 community
policing members and over 100
innocent citizens in the five states of
the South-East region since the unrest.