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HEADLINES: Residents lament as bread price soars in Bauchi

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Gunmen Kill 19 In Attack On Bauchi Village

SATURDAY, 07 MAY 2011 00:00 FROM ALI GARBA, BAUCHI NEWS - NATIONAL



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NO fewer than 19 people have been confirmed dead and 20 houses destroyed during an attack in Kurum village of Bogoro Local Council of Bauchi State.



A source told newsmen that the attackers, who besieged the village on Wednesday night, killed the victims and destroyed their houses.

The Guardian source said while 17 people were killed instantly during the attack, three others who sustained serious injuries and were hospitalised, died later.

Mr Bukata Zhadi, Secretary of Zaar Elders and Traditional Rulers in Bogoro and Tafawa Balewa Local Council, said among the dead are a pastor's wife and her three children.

He said many other persons were in critical condition in various hospitals in the local council. The secretary blamed the recurrent crisis on the state government's failure to contain the problem. He said the serial attacks were in fulfillment of Governor Isa Yuguda's recent statement that he would demolish Tafawa Balewa should the crisis continue.

Since crisis erupted in the council on January 27, there have been series of attack, mostly at night in communities, with many people being killed while several houses were destroyed.

The Police in Bauchi state have confirmed that 16 people were killed and 20 houses burnt in Kurum village during a night attack by some gunmen on Wednesday.

Commissioner of Police (CP) in the state, Mr John Abakasanga disclosed this during an interview with newsmen in Bauchi yesterday.

Abakasanga said that the cause of the attack was not known. According to him, the killers had adopted a hit-and-run mode of raid in the area. He said the police were investigating the cause of the attack.

Asked to confirm the death of three additional persons who were injured, the CP said it might have been a later development.

Meanwhile, the state government has said that it was aware of some individuals and groups who incite youths and hire mercenaries to perpetrate such acts.

A statement signed by the Permanent Secretary in charge of Special Services, Government House Bauchi, Alhaji Abdu Ilelah, said government would deal with such individuals and groups.

"Government is also aware of some individuals and groups who have been inciting gullible youth and communities against one another and also bringing in mercenaries to attack villages and hamlets in the

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two Local Government Areas with the sole intention of spreading the killings of innocent lives and destroying property so that the state becomes ungovernable.

"Government is fully prepared to deal, this time around, ruthlessly with any person or groups with these evil and satanic intensions.

"While the residents of the Two Local Government Areas forge ahead with peace process that will be everlasting, government will very soon satisfy their wishes and aspirations to facilitate the process.

"Such solutions include the realization of the wishes and aspirations of the Communities and the creation of Chiefdoms and Village Areas", the statement said.

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#2 **Oogorh** 2011-05-07 21:46 **-2**

Alhaji Abdu lleja should wait until his wife or wives and children have been murdered in cold blood before coming out to play politics with words. The Bauchi state government and police should step up to there responsibilities of protecting the citizenry or make room for a state of emergency

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#1 **Gibsonie** 2011-05-07 13:10 **+2**

Bauchi State Governor/Government should understand that life is sacred and must not be wasted. This unbridled violence and destruction of life and property must stop. And this can only happen when the government start prosecuting those that incite and perpetuate violence

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