

NEWS.

Five killed in fresh Plateau attack, 20 houses torched

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A 40-YEAR old mother of two, her three-year old and five-year old children were on Sunday night among the five persons killed by people suspected to be Fulani herdsmen in Bokkos Local Government Area of Plateau State.

The suspected attackers were said to have stormed the community and set over 20 houses ablaze and destroyed their farmlands.

The state Commissioner for Housing and Urban Development, Hon Solomon Maren, confirmed the attack, describing it as barbaric.

He said, "now that peace is gradually returning to the state capital some miscreants want to set us back."

According to him, suspected herdsmen were believed to be the brain behind the killing of the people "because last week there was another attack that led to the death of two people in the area and one Fulani was caught in the act.

"After the incident, the youths of Mbar arrested one Fulani, who admitted that they were paid to come and attack Mbar."

Maren said that security personnel have been deployed in the community to curtail further loss of lives.

He explained that the assailants came to the community at about 11:45 pm with dangerous weapons and started shooting sporadically scaring away the villagers before embarking on the destruction of lives and property.

He confirmed that five people were killed while five others were critically injured and hospitalized in Plateau Specialist Hospital, General Hospital in Barkin Ladi, Bokkos General Hospital.

The commissioner disclosed that one compound was set ablaze with five cars and three motorcycles burnt down completely.

The Police PRO, DSP Emmanuel Abuh, who confirmed the attacks, said he would get back to journalists when full details were made available to him.

The STF spokesman, Captain Ikedichi Iweha, could however, not be reached as at the time of filing the report.