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# Again, gunmen kill 25 in Plateau

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*Peaceful Plateau*



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The orgy of killings continued yesterday in Plateau with the murder of 25 people in separate attacks by unknown gunmen at Ariri community in Miango town, Bassa and Barkin Ladi council areas of the state.

Nineteen persons were mowed in Bassa while the rest lost their lives in Barkin Ladi.

The killings in Bassa were confirmed by the national president of Irigwe Development Association (IDA) and former member representing the constituency in Plateau House Assembly, Sunday Abdu.

The confirmation was corroborated by the current lawmaker for the area, Simon Kudu.

According to reports, the attackers came in the dead of the night, stirring the residents before shooting them at close range.

The assailants, it was gathered, left the scene unchallenged.

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At Barkin Ladi, same scenario played out about the same time, as the victims, who were resting after the day's work, were slaughtered in their sleep.

Some of the survivors accused security operatives of staying aloof.

However, the state government has condemned the renewed carnage.

The Commissioner for Information and Communication, Mr. Yakubu Dati, appealed to the attackers to sheathe their sword in the interest of peace and harmonious co-existence.



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He charged security operatives in the state to be proactive and plug noticeable lapses.

Sympathising with the families of the victims, Dati, however, urged them to be vigilant and alert security of any strange objects and persons in their localities.

The force spokesman, DSP Mathias Terna Tyopev, had earlier confirmed the incident in a chat.

Similarly, the Commander of Operation Safe Haven (OPSH), Major-General Chris Augustine Agundu, at a parley with the youths in Jos North, urged them to shun vices capable of truncating the peace in the state.

Agundu expressed optimism that the military task force would adequately tackle the security challenges in the state.

He urged the youths to emulate General Yakubu Gowon, whom he described as an epitome of peace.

Dati told the youths to avoid being used as thugs by politicians during elections, assuring the citizens of government's commitment to put an end to the escalating unrest in the state.



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