

Village head, nonagenarian, nine others killed in fresh Southern Kaduna attacks

From **Saxone Akhaine** and **Abdulganiyu Alabi**, Kaduna

1 IN renewed attacks by bandits suspected to be herdsmen, 11 persons, including a village head and a 97-year-old woman, have been killed in the southern part of Kaduna State.

Southern Kaduna Peoples Union (SOKAPU) stated yesterday that amid the 24 hour curfew that had spanned 63 days, armed Fulani militia still invaded Unguwan Gankon village in Gora, Zangon Kataf Council, and killed two persons and burnt seven houses.

The spokesman, Luka Binniyat, added: "Wary neighbours, however, came to the

ACF warns leaders against reckless utterances

rescue and the murderers fled."

He identified the victims as Kefas Malachy Bobai, a 30-year-old father of three; and 16-year-old student, Miss Takama Paul.

According to SOKAPU, the latest attack shows that the siege to southern Kaduna communities is still ongoing.

Said Binniyat: "For southern Kaduna in the past five years that Nasir el-Rufai has been governor, it has been a grim tale of blood, destruction and hopelessness which we shall never forget.

"After el-Rufai had on several occasions insisted that no square inch of southern

Kaduna had been occupied by Fulani militia and challenged anyone to point out such a community, SOKAPU has come up with our findings."

He listed the rural Christian communities the Fulani occupied for over a year.

Attempts to get words from Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Mohammad Jalige, was futile, as he did not respond to calls to his phone.

BUT the Arewa Consultative Forum (ACF) has warned religious, political and traditional rulers over utterances that may fuel insecurity in the country and create bad blood among citi-

zens.

Members of ACF, led by the Chairman, Audu Ogbe, met in Kaduna yesterday over insecurity in the North and the country in general.

In a communiqué signed by the National Publicity Secretary, Yawe Emmanuel, the Northern socio-cultural group frowned on the attacks and killings in the North.

Emmanuel explained that the ACF chairman, during deliberations, said: "Some Nigerians take the ACF as be an ethnic, religious or political organisation; but it is none of these.

"We have over 300 tribes in the North and we cannot afford to be an ethnic organisation."