

## News

# Fresh killings in Benue, Plateau claim over 23 persons, cattle

From Isa Abdulsalami Ahovi, Jos

**N**O fewer than 23 persons have been killed by suspected herdsmen in fresh attacks on Guma, Logo, Ukum and Kwande local councils in Benue State.

Also, yesterday, gunmen reportedly opened fire on grazing cattle, killing a herder, Dantala Kago, and injuring three others around the Gero Community of Jos

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South Local Council of Plateau State.

Most residents have reportedly fled their communities as the attacks have become a daily occurrence.

According to witnesses, nine persons were killed in Logo, eight were killed in Ukum, and three each in Guma and Kwande.

Speaking to newsmen in Makurdi, Ray Anumve, who hails from Kwande, said the fresh attacks were carried out

by armed herdsmen and suspected militants on May 9, 2025.

He told newsmen that on Friday, May 9, 2025, "coordinated brutal attacks were carried out by armed herdsmen and other assailants across multiple locations in Turan, Kwande Local Council of Benue State, resulting in deaths, injuries and displacement. The assailants spoke Fulfulde and Jukun."

Agwei, a farmer, he noted,

was killed while his brother and son were left with varying degrees of injury and were receiving treatment at a clinic in Jato-Aka.

Meanwhile, the House of Representatives member, Ojema Ojotu, has confirmed the death of the district head of Odugbeho, identified simply as Chief Adejo.

The lawmaker, representing Apa/Agatu constituency of Benue, who was featured on a TVC news programme yester-

day, said the village chief had fled the community to Otukpo due to incessant attacks by herdsmen.

According to him, the village head secured farmland in Otukpo but was still killed by the same herders on his farm.

The Guardian gathered that the gunmen shot dead over 40 cattle during the attack.

State Chairman of Miyetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association of Nigeria (MACBAN), Ibrahim Babayo,

told journalists in Jos yesterday that the attackers butchered some of the cattle and shared the meat.

The latest incident came a day after a herder, Abdulrazak Yusuf, was reportedly declared missing and 41 cattle were rustled around Bisici in the Foron District of Barkin Ladi Local Council.

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