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Friday
April 15

Daily Independent (Lagos)

Nigeria: Ten Killed in Bauchi Violence

Patience Ogbodo

8 April 2011

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Bauchi — At least 10 persons are feared dead in Bar Arewa village in [Bogoro](#) Local Government Area of Bauchi State when the village was attacked by unidentified men.

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The killings is coming just as Governor Isa Yuguda has ordered the suspension of the Chairman of [Bogoro](#) Local Government Area, Marcus Lusa and the District Head, Haruna Yakubu, village and hamlet heads in the area.

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A source who pleaded anonymity told our correspondent that the attackers stormed the village at about 12 midnight armed with guns and machete setting almost all the houses in [Bar Arewa](#) on fire.

The source said, "Some elderly people were burnt to death in their houses. After the killing and burning, which lasted less than an hour, the attackers fled the village.

Last week the villages of [Yola](#) and [Goskam Bom](#) in [Bogoro](#) Local Government Area were also attacked by marauders, killing at least 2 people.

According to Zhadi Bukata, Secretary of Zaar Elders and Traditional Rulers Forum, who confirmed the attack and killings, said the attack on Bar Arewa was very tragic as some were burnt in their houses.

He said, "More than ten [burnt bodies](#) were being removed from the burnt houses.

He alleged that the soldiers that were brought to maintain peace in the area "prevented the Seyawa from defending themselves against the attackers but allowed the them to kill the Sayawas who are Christians.

"The terrorists are brought and kept in the bush and are being fed by the state government on tax payers money."

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He appealed to the Federal Government to withdraw all the security men posted to [Tafawa Balewa](#) and [Bogoro](#) Local Government Areas and allow the Sayawas to defend themselves against their attackers.

In his reaction, the Senior Special Assistant to the State Government on Media Affairs, Sanusi Mohammed said that Bukata's allegations are unfounded and baseless.

He said: "The statement is an indictment because the state government has not descended so low to hire mercenaries to kill its own people. But if he can assist the state government to fish out those mercenaries the government will be happy and he will be rewarded."

When contacted on phone the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) of Bauchi Police Command, Mohammed Barau he was not aware of the attack and was going to find out.

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