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Fulani herdsmen kill cement dealer in Bayelsa

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By Igoniko Oduma – Yenagoa

There is tension in Bayelsa State following the alleged killing of a middle-aged man, identified as Ebamugha Akeni, a cement dealer, by a group of Fulani herdsmen over the weekend.

Daily Independent investigation revealed that the herdsmen attacked Akeni along the Trofani-Odi Road in Sagbama Local Government Area of the state following a fierce argument over the blocking of the road with cattle.

Sources said the herdsmen attacked the victim, whose marriage ceremony is a few days away, with gun and knife.

The communities in the area, sources added, had banned grazing and related activities following complaints by folks that crops on their farmlands were being destroyed by herds of cattle.

Youths of the area had been threatening fire and brimstone over the death of Akeni, it was learnt.

The deceased was said to be returning on his motorcycle from Odi in Kolokuma/Opokuma Local Government Area to Trofani in Sagbama Local Government Area of the state, when he had the argument with his assailants.

Eyewitnesses said concerned passers-by rushed him to the Sagbama General Hospital where he was referred to the Niger Delta University Teaching Hospital (NDUTH), Okolobiri, in Yenagoa Local Government Area, where he died.

Police Public Relations Officer, Bayelsa Police Command, Alex Akhigbe, confirmed the incident, saying one of the suspects had been arrested.

“A suspect has been arrested and is helping the police in ongoing investigation”, he said.

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