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Five killed in Plateau, Cross River attacks

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By Emmanuel Udom (*Lagos*) and Onoja Audu (*Jos*)

Gunmen invaded Kantoma village of Mangu local government area of Plateau State in the early hours of Wednesday and in the process killed three persons.

Daily Independent gathered that the gunmen who attacked the village were armed with machete.

A villager from the community, Ulama Joseph, who spoke to newsmen on phone from the restive community, admitted that three persons were killed.

According to him, suspected Fulani herdsmen are fingered to be behind the killing.

The Plateau State Police Public Relations Officer, Abu Emmanuel, who confirmed the incident, said gunmen stormed the village and beheaded a villager and carried the head away.

According to him "this created tension around the locality, youths of the village traced the blood of the victim to a Fulani settlement around the area and this created more tension in the LGA".

He said a detachment of mobile policemen had been drafted to the area to restore normalcy.

“We are appealing to the citizens of the locality to remain calm as the police is investigating the matter “, Joseph said.

Also, there were strong indications that two persons were feared killed on Tuesday when some unknown gunmen stormed a fuel station at Ikang in Bakassi local government area of Cross River state.

Daily Independent gathered that a commercial buss, loaded with passengers was trying to re-fuel, when the gunmen arrived the station, purportedly on a looting mission.

The incident, according to our source, occurred at about 8.30p.m as the driver of the bus, popularly known as Santos, and a passenger were feared killed in the pandemonium that ensued.

Hogan Bassey, Police Public Relations Officer for the Cross River State police command could not be reached of phone for official comment on the invasion, as his phone was switched off.

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