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Fulani rustlers kill eight mourners in Yangal village



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By Gabriel John - Special Correspondent, Kaduna

Gunmen suspected to be Fulani rustler have invaded Yangal village in the Zango Kataf Local Government area of Kaduna State, killing eight persons and injuring 11 others.



An

· Fulani herdsman and cattle

eyewitness, Jonah Yohanna, revealed that the gunmen stormed the village around 11.00 p.m. where mourners of a deceased gathered and opened fire on them.

"It has been our culture to mourn the departure of our loved ones. We gathered at the residence of the deceased throughout the night until the deceased is burial. It was one of these nights that the Fulani rustlers came and shot sporadically, killing our members." Yohanna said. According to him, a distress call was immediately put across to the police in the area, but the police did not come five hours after the killings and the rustlers disappeared.

Chairman of the local council, Jonathan Asake, confirmed the killings, saying he got a distressed call that Fulani rustlers invaded the area and that when he got there, he saw the scene of the tragedy.

He said he helped to evacuate the deceased to the nearby hospital, St. Lovies Hospital, Zonkwa, about 16km from the village.

"I got the distressed calls that Fulani rustlers attacked the villagers and that eight person were killed while eleven others were seriously wounded. Immediately, I moved to the area where I assisted in carrying the dead and the injured inside my car even when the youths tried to attack me, accusing me of late arrival," Jonah said.

According to him, there has been series of attacks by Fulani rustlers in the past and called on the state government to provide security needed to arrest the trend.

Contacted, Kaduna State Police spokesman said immediately they heard of the incident, the command sent its men to the area to calm the situation even as investigation into the incident continues.

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