

# Herdsmen Kill Four Family Members In Plateau Community

By **Onoja Audu, Ojo Oyewamide** - June 22, 2018



**Jos / Akure** – Four persons from the same family in Barkin Ladi Local Government Council of Plateau State were on Wednesday night killed by suspected Fulani herdsmen at Kai village, Kurra Falls, Gashes District.

DAILY INDEPENDENT gathered that not less than 16 persons from the restive community were still missing following the attacks which occurred on Wednesday night about 8p.m.

ASP Tyopev Mathias, Police Public Relations Officer, who confirmed the killing of the four persons to newsmen in a statement on Thursday evening, said the police responded immediately when the village reported the attacks at the Barkin Ladi Police Division.

“Today, one Maren Mahan reported to the police that unknown gunmen, suspected to be Fulani herdsmen, invaded the house of his elder brother, one Dauda Mahan ‘M’ of the same address, shot and killed the followings persons: Dauda Mahan, age 54 years; Mangai Agwom, 46 years; Christian Mangai, 15 years, and John Mangai, 10 years.

“On receipt of this information, a team of detectives, led by the Divisional Police Officer (DPO), Barkin Ladi Division, visited the scene of crime for an on-the-spot assessment.”

According to the police, they were taken to the General Hospital, Barkin Ladi, where they were confirmed dead by the doctor on duty and the corpses deposited in the hospital’s mortuary.

The police image-maker disclosed that an investigation was ongoing to track and arrest the perpetrators to face the consequences of their actions.

Last month, the district head of Gashes was attacked and his home set ablaze by gunmen.

Like in Gashes, gunmen had reportedly killed four family members in Kwal, Bassa Local Government Area, on Tuesday, in what has gradually developed into a pattern of killings in Plateau communities.

### **Soldiers Kill Fulani Boy In Ondo**

Umar Saliu, a 19-year-old Fulani, on Thursday was killed by a stray bullet fired by one of the soldiers providing security in Ajowa-Akoko, Akoko North-West Local Government Area of Ondo State.

Another Fulani man, Badejo Abudulahi, was also said to have been hit by the bullet.

Sources said Badejo was receiving medical attention at the State Specialist Hospital, Ikare-Akoko, while the corpse of Umar had been released to his parents for burial.

It was learnt the incident occurred when the soldiers at the Ajowa-Akoko military checkpoint noticed strange elements among the Fulani people in the area and were trying to fish them out.

"The Fulani people in the town were dancing with their sticks and cutlasses.

"The acrobatic dancing became rowdy and attracted the soldiers who are to maintain law and order at the checkpoint.

"The soldiers noticed some strange faces among them and wanted to fish them out.

"But the Fulani men tried to prevent the army men. This led to disorderliness and the victims were hit by bullets," a resident said.

Usman Saliu, 46-year-old father of the deceased, said his son was coming from school when he was killed by the stray bullet.

Ojo Adelegan, spokesman of Nigerian Army, 32 Artillery Brigade, confirmed the incident and said the soldiers were only trying to ensure that strange elements didn't invade the area.

The state government was said to have promptly intervened by holding a meeting with affected parties to resolve the matter.

Jimoh Dojumo, Senior Special Assistant to Governor Oluwarotimi Akeredolu on Security Matters, and Morakinyo Ajayi, caretaker chairman, Akoko North-West local government, apologised to the parents of the deceased on behalf of the governor.

They pleaded with the Fulani people to accept the incident as an act of God, saying it should not be allowed to cause breach of the peace being enjoyed in the area.

## **Comments**

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