

Herdsmen Lure Butchers With Cattle, Kill Two, Kidnap One In Ondo

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AKURE

Two butchers have been reportedly killed by some Fulani herdsmen on Tuesday while one was kidnapped

and another escaped with machete cuts in Ondo State.

The incident occurred at Ala Ajagbusi in Akure North Local Government Area of the state.

One of the victims, who

escaped with machete cuts, Nasiru Jamiu, explained that the herdsmen had been selling cows to them.

He disclosed that the herdsmen called his boss

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on Saturday as usual to come and buy cows but they later discovered it was a bait to kidnap them.

In his narration, Nasiru Jamiu said, "The Fulani people that used to sell cows to my boss called him to come and buy cows. Though he had been selling cows to him before, it has been long they both transacted business.

"We first went to the place on Saturday but the place was a long journey and my boss asked us to come back that he did not feel like going.

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"The guy kept disturbing him on phone and convinced him that they would bring the cows to a nearby location.

"So when he was called yesterday (Monday), they told us that some people would come and meet us at Ala town before we would proceed to where the cows were kept.

"On getting to Ala (in Akure North), they took us to where the cows were and asked us to park our vehicles so that they could move the cows to the main road.

"They entered into the bush while four of us were waiting beside the vehicle. Surprisingly they returned with guns and started shooting into the air. They kidnapped my boss and led him into the bush.

"The three of us left tried to run for our lives but I was hacked with machete and I fell. I then pretended as if I had died.

"When I later realised no one was there again and I discovered that I was still alive, I stood up and started running around in the bush.

"It was only my boss I saw being kidnapped but the other two of us, we still don't know their whereabouts till now. Maybe they later kidnapped them too or killed them, we are not sure."

But the bodies of the two other butchers have been discovered in the forest on Tuesday by the police while searching for the perpetrators of the crime and to rescue the one kidnapped.

According to the Public Relations Officer of the state Po-

lice Command, Funmi Odunlami, "Two of the three butchers have been killed. Their bodies were found in Tafa Camp within the Ala forest reserve by our men while searching and combing the bush after we were alerted about the abduction.

"Those who perpetrated the act have called the unit which the butchers belong to that the remaining butcher is still with them and alive.

"Information revealed that the butchers were going to the

reserve with a Diana truck to purchase cows all the way from Akure.

"The butcher that was macheted on his face was found groaning in pain at the camp when police raced to the scene. The victim was rushed to the General Hospital for treatment and later taken to police hospital in Akure for further treatment and he is recuperating.

"Investigations have begun towards arresting the culprits and as well to rescue the victim."