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Gunmen Kill 58 In Kaduna Village

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— June 25, 2014

Gunmen suspected to be Fulani herdsmen have again murdered 58 villagers in simultaneous attacks on two villages in Sanga Local Government Area of Kaduna State early yesterday.

Sanga, a local government in Southern part of Kaduna State, shares borders with Nasarawa, Bauchi, Plateau and Niger states and the Federal Capital Territory.

Residents also alleged that the attack was carried out by Fulani herdsmen, who killed 21 at Kabamu – Fadan Karshi village and 17 in Nandu villages all in Numana Chiefdom.

A resident of Fadan Karshi, Habila, told our correspondent that the gunmen went to the villages with sophisticated weapons.

He said, "They came to our area with dangerous weapons shooting and setting our houses ablaze. Last weekend, some couples who went to farm were also killed. We were able to kill one of the attackers and arrested one other person. That is why we know that the attack was carried out by Fulani."

He said the attack affected some communities in Kabamu in Karshi District and Ankpong in Nandu District all of Numana chiefdom.

Another resident, Victor, also disclosed that "Women and Children were the major casualties of the attacks. We don't know the mission of this people."

"The Fulani stormed the village at about 11 p.m on Monday night with sophisticated weapons. They started shooting and killing human beings like animals.

"They killed 17 people, mostly children and women and injured several people in Nandu village and Kabamu in Fadan Karshi all in Numana chiefdom. They burned several houses," said Victor.

Confirming the killings, the Sanga Local government Chairman, Hon Emmanuel Adamu who visited the scene of the attack described it as barbaric.

Adamu also confirmed the number of those killed, saying the attack started at about 10 p.m. on Monday up to the early hours of yesterday.

"The attack lasted for several hours claiming the lives of 21 people at Kabamu village and 17 at Ankpong villages in Nandu district," Adamu said.

According to the council Chairman, "Fulani men carried out the attack. The soldiers were able to shoot two of the gunmen; one died immediately, while the other sustained injuries. The soldiers arrested him. The Fulani's gunmen were wearing Mobile Police uniform; they disguised as Police."

"The attack is uncalled for, and one cannot even describe an attack that killed many people. We lost about 21 people at Fadan Karshi, and in Nandu district 17 people were killed. We lost 38 people in one night attack. This is condemnable in every sense of the word. We recorded lots injuries. It was a massacre in the land," he added.

He consoled the affected families and appealed to the people of the local government to remain calm as security measures were being put in place to forestall recurrence.

As at the time of filing this report, villagers were sighted relocating to unknown destinations for safety.

It would be recalled that, in May 2014, seven people including two gunmen were killed during an attack on a police post at Fadan Karshi.

Another attack claims 20 lives in Kaduna village

The Chairman of the Sanga local government area in Kaduna State, Mr. Emmanuel Adamu has confirmed the killing of 20 people in another attack on one of his communities by Fulani gunmen.

The council chairman said the attackers stormed Kobin village still in Numana chiefdom killing children, women and older men in broad day light.

He said, the attackers stormed the community at about 1 pm yesterday afternoon killing anybody on sight.

He added that the fresh killing of the 20 people in Kobin Village raised the tally of those people killed in just one chiefdom to 58.

"I am speechless, I do not know what to do again; this is heartless; how can people derive pleasure in killing small children and women?" he asked in tears.

A resident of Kobin village, Timothy who narrowly escaped death told our correspondent many people were killed in their farms and the dead bodies had been deposited at a small mortuary in Gwantu.

Meanwhile, the Kaduna State Police Command has confirmed the attacks on the three communities, but put the number of casualties at 18 people which is different from the figure released by the chairman of the local government.

The State Police Commissioner, Umar Shehu, as at the time of filing this report, said 18 persons had been confirmed dead while several others sustained various degrees of injuries, just as he disclosed that three persons had been arrested with AK47 rifle and about 158 rounds of ammunition.

CP Shehu however said that the situation was under control following the deployment of more security personnel to the troubled area.

"I can confirm the death of 18 persons and several others wounded; we have also arrested three persons in connection with the crisis; they were arrested with AK47 and about 158 rounds of ammunition.

"We have deployed more security personnel to the area and the situation is under control as I speak to you now", he said.

He said, investigation into the remote cause of the crisis had commenced while those arrested were being interrogated to get further details on their involvement in the fracas.

Meanwhile, he urged citizens to go about their lawful business and remain law abiding as the police remained committed to provide security for the good people of the state and their property.

Declare state of emergency in southern Kaduna – Group tells FG

Reacting yesterday, Concerned Realists of Southern Kaduna called for the declaration of a state of emergency in the state.

The group in a statement signed by its convener, Dr John Danfulani said the world should know there was a monumental failure in handling security issues in Southern Kaduna by the Federal and Kaduna state governments.

"We make bold to state that the government of Kaduna state is inciting crisis like we saw in Chawai Chiefdom where two persons lost their lives at the weekend, following forceful appointment of a traditional ruler while a case is pending in court. Similarly, four persons, incidentally couples were killed on Sunday in two locations before Tuesday's massacre.

Yero Condemns

Governor Mukhtar Ramalan Yero who condemned the attack at Fadan Karshi village, Sanga Local Government, described the act as a "provocative attempt by some unpatriotic people to cause confusion and unrest".

The governor in a statement by his spokesman, Ahmed Maiyaki, condoled with families of victims of the unwarranted attack on innocent citizens in the area.

Governor Yero said: "We call on people in Fadan Karshi and other parts of the State to remain calm as security forces have already been deployed in the area to maintain law and order. We should remain united and resolute in resisting obvious attempts by agents of darkness to create confusion and sow seeds of discord in our state."

The Governor said security agencies had already been directed to commence investigation into the matter and were on the track of the criminals adding that "no stone shall be left unturned in our resolve to bring perpetrators of this attack and all other criminal assaults on our people in the past to justice."

The Governor called on the entire people of Kaduna State to continue to live in peace with one another and to become more vigilant in observing happenings in their areas with a view to assisting security agencies with relevant information on suspicious persons and movements within and around their communities.

40 suspected Boko Haram members arrested in Cameroon

Meanwhile, Cameroon's military has arrested 40 suspected Boko Haram militants in the north of the country. Soldiers have also sealed