

Just In

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Home / Crime / News / Gunmen Kill 4 In Nasarawa



Gunmen Kill 4 In Nasarawa

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The end to the on-going communal crises ravaging parts of Nasarawa State may not be in sight, as four more persons were reportedly killed by gunmen on Wednesday evening. Three of them were killed in Arikya Soni, while the other was gu8nned down at Sakon Gona village, all in Lafia East development area.

Last week, gunmen also laid ambush on Arikya Soni, killing over 30 persons while returning from a peace summit convened by the traditional ruler of Arikya Chiefdom, HRH Usman Babba.

LEADERSHIP Friday understands that the gunmen had laid in wait for villagers who had gone to the Nasarawa Eggon Marekt to sell their farm produce and were on their way back, at about 4pm on Wednesday.

The assailants, after killing their victims, went away with their Bajaj motorcycles which were yet to be recovered as at the time when this story was filed in.

In a related development, one person was shot dead at Sabon Gida village in an evening attack which left several others injured in its wake.

A source who craved anonymity said farmers in the area now lived in apprehension, as they have become vulnerable to attacks because of the inability of the police to respond quickly to distress calls and the nature of the terrain.

Reacting on the incident, the secretary, Miyetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association, Alhaji Husseini Mohammed, decried the situation in the state in which people who were attacked or ambushed claimed the crime was perpetrated by Fulani herdsmen. He pointed out that it was "unfair and deplorable".

Mohammed regretted that, even when other criminals took advantage of the on-going security breaches in the state to commit crimes, it was always attributed to Fulanis who were never given the platform to clear the air on their involvement or otherwise.

When contacted, the state police public relations officer, DSP Ugochukwu Theodore, said he was yet to be briefed on the incident.

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