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Gunmen Attack Mourners, Kill Inspector, 3 Others In Kaduna

BY MIDAT JOSEPH, Kaduna

Unknown gunmen on Friday night opened fire on hundreds of mourners in a Kaduna village, killing a police inspector and three other persons.

The gunmen, whom residents alleged to be Fulani militia, stormed Ayagan village of Bajju Chiefdom in Zangon Kataf local government at about 8pm on Friday.

Residents said the attack lasted for about two hours, resulting in the killing of the police officer who had gone to sympathise with the bereaved family of a retired ECWA Pastor.

According to a resident of the village, who gave his name as Ezekiel, "the gunmen had first of all attacked the house of the village head and killed two of his sons because they could not get their father to kill.

"After the attack on the village head's house, the Fulani gunmen moved into the community to the house of the late Pastor and opened fire on people who

had come to sympathise with his family over his death. There, they killed one person but five people got bullet wounds and are now receiving treatment at private hospitals at the headquarters of the local government."

Another villager, Sheyin, told our correspondent that, "the Fulani militia had called and informed the village head that they would be attacking the village anytime, any day, but he took it for a joke because the community has never wronged anyone and would not expect such."

The killing of the four people however caused pandemonium at the local government headquarters as hundreds of youths took to the streets to protest the killings yesterday.

The protesters marched to the palace of the paramount traditional ruler and the local government secretariat to demand for explanation.

The Kaduna State Police Command could not respond to our inquiries when contacted, at the time of filing this report.