

NEWS

8 Killed In Renewed Attack On Nasarawa Community



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By **Danjuma Joseph**

No fewer than eight persons have been reportedly killed on Tuesday, by suspected herdsmen in some communities in Obi local government area of Nasarawa State.

Our correspondent gathered that the suspected herdsmen carried out serial attacks on the communities mostly dominated by Tiv people, in early hours of Tuesday.

A resident of Baaki village Mr Fidelis Baaki, told our Correspondent that the suspected herdsmen

invaded the village in the morning when people had just woken from sleep.

He said that apart from the persons that were killed, houses and other valuables including animals were destroyed during the attacks.

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He gave the name of the affected villages to include; Kwaghshir, Ibuan, Apurough and Buaii, saying that attacks forced the villagers to flee their homes.

He called on both federal and state governments to do everything possible to end the attacks and killing currently going on in the state without any challenge from security operatives.

President Muhammadu Buhari had stated in an address during his visit to the state on Tuesday, that the federal government would no longer tolerate suspected herdsmen attacks, assuring that government was working hard to return peace and stability in the North central.

The president assured that the suspected herdsmen would henceforth be arrested and prosecuted, just as

he directed security agencies in the country to arrest and prosecute any person found with illegal arms.

It would be recalled that a similar attack was carried out on Kadarko community, by unknown gunmen last week Monday, leading to the death of seven persons.

Addressing Journalists in Abuja, on the recent attacks, a group under the umbrella of Concerned Indigenous Tiv People in Kadarko, Keana local government area of Nassarawa State, called on government to take urgent steps to quell the crisis.

The group said despite the fact that military had been drafted to the affected areas, the police were not properly liaising with the military for the military to credibly discharge their duty to get to the terrorists that sacked the villages.

In the meantime, the president of Tiv Youth Organization, Peter Ahemba, has sent a Safe Our Soul (SOS) message to the Nasarawa State government to curb the attacks on his people by suspected herdsmen.

He made the appeal in a statement he signed and made available to newsmen yesterday in Lafia.

“I once again use this medium with heavy heart to bring to fore, the continued attack and destruction of lives and property of our people by Fulani marauders who do not have sympathy for even women and children. Many of our people have been rendered widowers, orphans and widows by the wicked activities of these killer-

herdsmen since the implementation of the anti-open grazing law enacted by the Benue State government commenced.

“Report received from Keana, Awe, Obi local government areas and Azara development area of the state as at 10th January, 2018 when the Inspector-General of Police, Ibrahim Idris met with stakeholders in Lafia during a joint security meeting convened by the state government indicated that 23 people were killed, out of which 22 are Tiv while one is an Alago man.

“Presently, the entire population from Awe, Azara, Keana and Doma has been forced out of their homes and villages by the Fulan terrorists who embarked on serial killings and destruction of lives and property,” he said

The Nasarawa State Police command has confirmed the attacks and killings in some villages in Obi LGA of Nasarawa State.

According to Mr Kennedy Idirisu, its Public Relations Officer, the victims were killed by gunmen that invaded the villages early Tuesday morning.

He said police troops has been deployed to the trouble spots.