Black Christmas In Plateau As Gunmen Kill 72

BY ACHOR ABIMAJE, JOS AND **GODWIN ENNA. Katsina**

As most Nigerians looked forward to the joy and happiness of Christmas Day, murderers on Sunday cowardly crept into different communities in two local governments of Plateau State and slaughtered about 72 persons in cold blood.

Even though the military said they responded to 36 distress calls from different locations in the last 48 hours, their efforts did not stop the killers from their bloodthirsty quest.

In this vein the Berom Youth Movement (BYM) has strongly condemned the horrific invasion of five communities by people they described as suspected Fulani herdsmen in Gashish and Ropp Districts of Barkin Ladi and Bokkos local government areas of Plateau State on Christmas Eve.

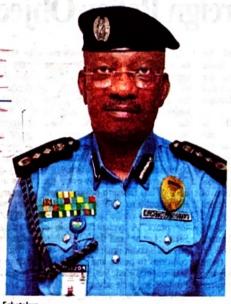
The coordinated attacks, BYM said, resulted in the killing of over 72 in the process.

by its national publicity secretary, Mangu local government areas. were killed at NTV, five persons at the 23rd day of December, 2023, perpetrators. Mai Yanga Sabo, three persons at claiming over 22 lives, explicitly Darwat and one person at Hurum, depicts the mission of the marauders public to remain calm and to inform with neighbouring villages of Bokkos to consistently maim lives and the security agencies about anything recording the highest deaths toll of mar the Yuletide which they have; that agitates their mind. over 40 persons while many others long planned that Plateau would be Mutfwang had on Monday said sustained various degree of injuries.

The statement also noted that food items were also looted.

According to the BYM statement, the terrorism act not only demonstrates has also led to complete displacement the nation's values.

BYM said: "On a day meant to celebrate love, compassion, and





The governor, who stated this through his spokesman, Gyang Bere, Rwang Tengwong, said from The onslaught, followed by the confirmed the incident while calling

The governor also advised the

The governor disclosed this at Plateau." a blatant disregard for human life but who lost their lives in the attack and a luncheon organised by the Chief Lagbaja, for troops of Operation Safe in Katsina Haven (OPSH) in Mangu.

Meanwhile, Plateau State Governor destruction of farmlands and other in Katsina State.

property by the gunmen.

measures in tackling insecurity in the rites.

distress calls during the attacks.

distress calls from different locations, Sokoto States." simultaneously. As we speak, some put a stop to all criminal activities in avert further attacks in the area.

In another incident, no fewer than arrest the perpetrators. Mutfwang expressed dismay eight traders were killed by suspected "The CP condoles with the family,

The traders who were in a vehicle returning from Jibia weekly local market were shot by terrorists escaping from a military offensive in some parts of Zamfara State.

A credible source revealed that two of the traders were abducted while four other passengers were severely wounded by the attackers but are now receiving treatment in an undisclosed hospital.

"They were returning from Jibia market to Yan Gayya, a village close to Katsina metropolis when all of a sudden the hoodlums opened fire on their vehicle.

"The driver was shot dead which forced the vehicle to stop. The terrorists abducted those who were not wounded, and left without taking anything," the source said.

Among those killed were Sani Na Gogara, Yusuf Karamin Su, Sale Lami, Dan Hameme, Malam Shafi'i, Malam Dikke and Bashir Sani.

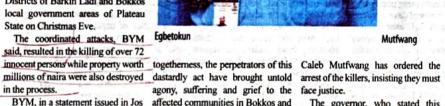
LEADERSHIP gathered that they He promised to adopt stringent had been buried according to Islamic

Another source from a security In a speech, the commander of outfit said: "Our people (soldiers) Operation Safe Haven (OPSH), Maj.- have been making life difficult information available, nine persons available, nine pe troops had responded to several terrorists are now fleeing the offensive and we've gathered that Abubakar said: "In the last 48 some of them are running to as far as hours, we have responded to 36 the Niger Republic from Zurmi and

Police spokesperson in Katsina subjected to a "mother-of- all- attacks" that at least 50 people were killed by of our men are in hospital due to the State, Abubakar Sadik Aliyu, who ever witnessed, which is currently gunmen in several communities in injuries sustained in the attacks. But confirmed the attack, said the Mangu and Bokkos local government we are committed to ensuring that we command had taken measures to

> "Yes, it is true. The command has since deployed measures to prevent of Army Staff, Lt.-Gen. Taoreed Ferrorists kill 8, abduct traders reoccurrence and has detailed its operational assets to track down and

> over the spate of attacks and wanton gunmen at Kukan Babangida village friends and loved ones of those affected by the incident," he added.



agony, suffering and grief to the face justice. BYM, in a statement issued in Jos affected communities in Bokkos and

being executed."

The BYM also consoled the areas of the state. families and loved ones of those assured the affected communities of persons, while also undermining the that it stands in solidarity with them peace and unity that are at the core of during this difficult time and will continue to advocate for justice and accountability.