Three dead in fresh Plateau killings

By Yusufu Aminu Idegu, Jos 19/08/2012 00:19:00



Bomb scare rocks Jos

Tension heightened in Plateau State yesterday ahead of today's Eid-el-Fitri following the killing of three people in Barkin Ladi Local Government Area of the state.

Two others were injured

when five people were ambushed and shot on Friday by yet-to-be identified gunmen at Sho village. The attack is the latest in the series of acts of terrorism in the area.

Killed were Yero Goma, Wada Usman and Maliki Magoro.

Goma and Usman died on the spot while Magoro died while receiving treatment in the hospital, according to the National Secretary of Miyeti Allah Cattle Breeders Association, Alhaji Saleh Bayeri.

Bayeri said the men, all of whom are Fulani, were apparently ambushed while returning to Sho from Barkin Ladi.

"The only survivor of the attack, Useni Ahmodu, confirmed to me that their attackers were Berom," he said.

However, another version of the story is that the assailants were Fulani who mistook the victims for Berom.

Gyang Tsoho, a Berom, said: "That is their style of attack. They normally lay ambush to attack the Berom but this time around they got it wrong and attacked their own."

The Special Task Force (STF) on Jos crises otherwise called Operation Safe Haven said the attack was carried out at about 5pm on Friday.

Spokesman for the STF, Captain Salisu Mustapha said: "armed men opened fire on them killing one Yero Gomma and Wada Uman on the spot while Abdullahi Mukaka and Useni Ahmodu sustained gunshot wounds.

"The fifth person, Saleh Shuaibu escaped unhurt. The injured were rushed by men of the STF to a clinic in Barkin Ladi for treatment.

"However, Abdullahi Mukaka, one of the injured persons died at the clinic. Despite the incident the STF will like to reassure the public of its commitment to ensure a hitch free Sallah celebration"

He pledged that the STF would "leave no stone unturned in fishing out the perpetrators of this dastardly act"

Barkin Ladi has been a flash point of bloody confrontation between

the Fulani and the Berom for some time now.

Only last month, unknown gunmen opened fire on sympathisers who had gone to bury victims of an earlier attack on a village in the area. In the stampede that ensued a Senator and State legislator representing the area, Dr. Gyang Datong and Mr. Gyang Fulani died.

Soon after the bloodshed, the STF combed the area in search of arms, weapons and terrorists.

Panic also swept through Bukuru in Jos South Local Government Area yesterday after an abandoned bag was mistaken for a bomb.

The police dispatched its anti- bomb squad to the scene and the bag was found to contain nothing of the sort.

This came 48hours after the Rikkos police station in Jos was bombed.

The explosion damaged some surrounding buildings and injured one person.

The military and the police are intensifying security in the state which has witnessed violent clashes between Christians and Muslims and attacks blamed on Boko Haram over the last few years. Two main prayer grounds in Jos have been put off-limits for today's Eid prayers.

Alternative areas have been provided.

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Salisuumar

When the Muslims or the Fulanis are attacked it is swept under the carpet or at best referred to as a clash but if it is the Berom or the xtians in Plateau State that comes under fire it is call an attack. Now the Berom are at it again and when the Fulani retaliates hell is let loose and everyone will have a voice to condemn the act, some will even be calling on the same Fulanis or their close associates to join in the condemnation or else be referred to as assesory to the act. What goes around comes around and very fast in Nigeria.

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delpiero

SALISU, WELL, I WILL AGREE WITH YOU TO SOME EXTENT, REASON BEING, THAT YOU MAY HAVE A SOFT LANDING ANYWAY.