



About Us

News

Politics

Columnists



Business



Editorial



Sports

Health

Entertainment



Magazine



Education



Online Special

Reader's Account

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Three herdsmen held for attacking mourners, others

Posted By: [Ernest Nwokolo, Abeokuta](#) On: December 14, 2017 In: [News](#), [News Update](#)

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•Ige Orisade after the attack



Suspected Fulani herdsmen have reportedly killed four mourners – all women – with machetes in Oja-Odan community, Ogun State.

The Nation gathered that the women were returning home from the funeral of a relation at Moro village in Eegelu community when two suspected herdsmen accosted them at Oja-Odan.

It was learnt that the suspected herdsmen demanded to sleep with them but they resisted.

The furious herdsmen reportedly inflicted deep machete cuts on three of them.

A source close to one of them said some villagers rescued the women and took them to a private clinic.

The assailants were said to have fled.

It was learnt that the incident was reported at the Oja Odan Divisional Police headquarters.

But the assailants reportedly carried out a similar attack on farmers the following day (Sunday), severely injuring one of them.

A source, who spoke in confidence, said: “The women were returning home after a burial programme in their neighbouring community. They were attacked with machetes by herdsmen who wanted to rape them.

“There was another attack on innocent farmers on Sunday. The two incidents have been reported at the Oja-Odan Police Station.”

Police spokesman Abimbola Oyeyemi, an Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP), said a farmer, Ige Orisade, was attacked and injured by suspected herdsmen.

He added the three herdsmen have been arrested by the police in connection with the attack on Ige.

An AK-49 rifle, pieces of 0.8mm live ammunition, 26 live cartridges and two sharp cutlasses were recovered from them.

He named the suspects as Mohammed Bello (40), Muhammed Momoh (30) and Yisau Umoru (18).

The statement added: “Three herdsmen have been arrested by the police in Ogun State for attempted murder and unlawful possession of firearms.

“The three: Mohammed Bello (40), Muhammed Momoh (30) and Yisau Umoru (18) were arrested following information received by the police that a man, Ige Orisade, was attacked and severely wounded by the herdsmen on his Imedu farm at Oke-Odo via Oja-Odan.

“And when he confronted them to know why their cattle grazed on his farm and destroyed his crops, an argument ensued. The herdsmen attacked him with machetes, wounding him severally before they escaped into the nearby bush.

“On the strength of the information, the Area Commander for Ilaro, Titus Musa, dispatched a team of policemen to the scene. The bush was combed in conjunction with vigilantes, at the end of which the three suspects were arrested.”

