

Gunmen kill six, injure seven in Plateau community

AT least six people were killed and seven seriously wounded following simultaneous attacks by gunmen on five communities in Barkin-Ladi and Riyom Local Government of Plateau State.

The Nation reports that the communities affected in the bloody attacks included Kwi, Bachit, Foron, Heipang, and Wereng.

It was gathered that they were under organised attacks that started at about 8:30pm on Sunday and lasted close to three hours as gunmen passing through the communities in large numbers, wreaked havoc on villagers.

The assailants, it was

From Kolade Adeyemi,
Jos.

learnt, stormed the communities on motorcycles at the same time and shot sporadically. They were said to have gone on killing sprees, destroying peoples' properties before fleeing almost at the same time.

A community leader, who does not want his name in print, explained that the gunmen laid siege in the area, divided themselves into various communities to carry out the dastardly act and took the residents by surprise.

Giving the breakdown, the leader disclosed that four people were killed in Hei-

pang, one in Kwi, and two in Foron, all in Barakin-Ladi local government; while another three were killed in Wereng and two in Bachit. He added that seven persons also sustained injuries.

The National President, Berom Youth Moulders Association, Dalyop Solomon, said prior to the attacks, there were reports of a plan to attack six local government areas in the state.

Solomon pointed out that the recent cases of isolated killings and invasions of communities were part of the ploy to frustrate farming this season, adding that it was by extension, territorial expansion.

According to him, the latest unprovoked attacks on the five communities had heightened tension in all the affected areas. He called on the security agencies to wade in and fish out the perpetrators.

Spokesman for Operation Safe Haven, (OPSH), Capt. James Oya, confirmed the attacks, adding that they were on top of the situation.

He said the gunmen sporadically opened fire, while passing through the five communities and bullets reportedly hit and killed one person, whose body was found in a nearby bush in Kwi village.

One died and seven injured in Lagos accident