



Two NIS personnel, female vigilante killed in Kebbi, Ebonyi

• Herder slain in Jos • Nurse, maid murdered in Benue

TWO Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS) operatives and a female member of a vigilante group have been killed by armed criminals in Kebbi and Ebonyi states.

Also, a 40-year-old herder was murdered in Plateau State while suspected cultists killed a nurse and a maid in Benue State.

The death of the NIS operatives was confirmed by the agency's spokesman in Kebbi, DSI Abdullahi Isa, in a statement yesterday.

He said the officers paid the supreme price when a group of armed men suspected to be bandits attacked them at Garin Garba entry point, about 12 Kilometers away from Kangiwa headquarters of Arewa Local Government Area on January 15.

"As a result, two gallant officers lost their lives. They are: Isa Nafi'u (II) NIS No. 34057 and Garba Haruna Fana (II) NIS No. 17796."

The spokesperson confirmed that the third officer escaped unharmed, adding

From Ogochukwu Anloke Ebonyi, Uja Emmanuel, Makurdi and Kolade Adeyemi, Jos

that the deceased officer had been buried.

The deceased female vigilante operative identified as Onwe Blessing Onana was killed on Tuesday during gunmen attack on their office at Ohaukwu local government area in Ebonyi State.

Chairman, Ohaukwu local government area, Onwe Odonon confirmed the incident, adding that another operative was injured and some properties carted away by the hoodlums.

Odonon noted that attacks on security operatives had continued unabated and were demoralizing frantic efforts of the vigilantes in safeguarding the localities.

"Our resolve to achieve peace at Ohaukwu Local Government can never be undermined by anybody. We urge our people to be vigilant in their environment and report any illegal movement to the

nearest police station," he said.

In Makurdi, a 65-year-old retired nurse, Mrs. Esther Amali and her maid, Mercy Mwuese, 20, were brutally murdered in their residence along Makurdi-Naka road by suspected cultists.

The incident occurred at about 4:30pm on Sunday.

An eyewitness account said the victims were allegedly killed by a neighbour and suspected member of the Red Axe confraternity.

The Nation learnt that trouble started when the maid got pregnant and a rival cultist was rumoured to be responsible.

The suspected murderer was said to have accused the rumoured father of killing a member of his group who was also visiting the maid.

Angered by the rumour of a rival cultist being responsible for the maid's pregnancy, the suspect, now at large, was said to have scaled the fence into the nurse's compound where an argument ensued between them.

The maid was said to be washing her toddler's clothes

outside when the suspect started calling her names. She replied when she could not stomach the insults anymore and that led to the suspect stabbing her to death.

Her cry for help, sources said, attracted her boss whose attempt to intervene was met with several stabs from the suspect.

She was said to have been found by neighbours and was rushed to the Federal Medical Centre Makurdi.

"The matter has already been reported at the 'D' Division Police station by the family members and the community while the deceased were deposited at the Federal Medical Centre, Makurdi," said a source.

The Benue Police Public Relations Officer, PPRO SP Kate Anene said she was yet to be briefed about the incident.

In Jos, the 40-year-old herder was said to have been killed yesterday morning during an attack on a Toyota Boxer company in Batura district of Bokkos.