

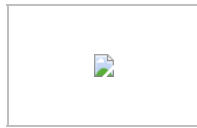
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Fulani marauders kill 15 in Benue 14 killed in auto crash

Written by Johnson Babajide - Makurdi | Monday, 14 October 2013 00:55 | font size | Print | Email | Be the

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About 15 persons were reported killed in the early hours of Sunday at Ogwule-Ankpa in Agatu, Benue State when people suspected to be Fulani marauders invaded the area.

The area has become a theatre of war between Fulani marauders and Agatu farmers in recent times. Hardly does a week pass without attack on farmers in the area while thousands have fled their homes in the troubled area.

This latest crisis forced the governor of the state, Mr Gabriel Suswan, to visit the area yesterday where he assured the people of adequate security.

Governor Suswan, who spoke at the Catholic Church, Oshigbuda after inspecting the damage at Enogaje, one of the communities attacked by the marauders in a previous attack, urged the people to be security conscious and report suspicious movements to security agencies. He promised to provide motorcycles to facilitate this.

The governor also made cash donations to most of the communities affected by the incessant attacks while expressing disappointment over the renewed invasion despite the many peace moves by the state government to halt the ugly trend.

The governor was accompanied by the deputy governor, Chief Steven Lawani; the Secretary to the State Government, Dr David Salifu; the state Commissioner of Police and the state Director of State Security Service (SSS).

A source who spoke to the Nigerian Tribune on phone said that most of the victims who died during the invasion were killed in their sleep between 4a.m. and 5a.m.

The Nigerian Tribune further gathered that many people sustained various degrees of injury from gun shots while a large number of houses and household items worth millions of naira were destroyed

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during the attack.

Meanwhile, not less than 14 persons died in a ghastly motor accident that occurred on Makurdi-Gboko road on Sunday.

According to an eyewitness, the accident involved a fully loaded 14 seater bus, a tanker and a taxi.

The eyewitness said that the accident occurred near Wannune Market around 9.00a.m.

Tarpav Iere, who spoke to the Nigerian Tribune, said the 14 seater bus belonging to a transport company, said to be heading to Jato-Aka in Kwande Local Government Area, had a head on collision with a tanker coming from an opposite direction.

He said the taxi coming behind the tanker also hit the bus.

Other passengers were said to have sustained serious injuries and were rushed to an undisclosed hospital in the town.

Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) in the state, DSP Daniel Ezeala, confirmed the incident and the number of those who died.

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