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Gunmen, on Friday, attacked Kashimbilla community in Takum Local Government Area of Taraba State, killing two persons and kidnapping two women.

A member of the state House of Assembly, Mr Mark Useni, who represents Takum II Constituency, confirmed the attack to journalists in Jalingo.

Useni said two women, including a pregnant lady, were taken hostage by the attackers.

He said efforts to trace the whereabouts of those taken hostage did not yielded any result.

The Public Relations Officer of the state police command, Mr Joseph Kwaji, who also confirmed the incident, however, said only one person was killed.

Kwali, an Assistant Superintendent of Police, said many houses were burnt, alleging that the gunmen were militias who found their way to the area from Benue State.

He also said that the gunmen attacked the Jukun, Tiv and Fulani residents in the are



The spokesman assured the residents of the area that the command was on top of the situation.

In a related development, an alleged cult war has claimed the life of one person in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, as two rival groups engaged in a bloody clash on Thursday night.

The deceased, whose name is yet unknown, died in the incident which lasted between 7.00 p.m. and 8.00 p.m., along the popular Sangana Street, one of the flash points in the state capital.

He was said to have engaged in an argument with a member of a rival group after an indoor game.

According to a witness, a man simply identified as Jude defeated the deceased in a betting game, which resulted in a squabble, with the victim allegedly threatening to deal with his opponent.

“Jude called his ‘boys,’ who also live around the area. The boys came and the man could not escape before they met him. They stabbed him till he died there,” said the witness, who craved anonymity.

It was further gathered that immediately the man died, Jude and his wife abandoned their house and fled but not without creating tension in the area as petty traders had to abandon their business activities.

The rival group members were said to have stormed the place, armed, early Friday morning, apparently on a revenge mission. They were seen in search of their rivals, particularly Jude.

The entire area, as of Friday morning, was desolate as it was devoid of the usual hustle and bustle.

“The corpse was there till this morning (Friday). The boys stormed our area. Many of them were holding machetes and moving about freely, looking for their opponents. But I don’t know the groups.

“What the boys did was to vandalise the man’s SUV and they have been moving around this our area since morning,” the witness said, adding that the police later came to remove the corpse.

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