

someone who destroys your property and yet we are claiming equality! I'm devastated."

One of the traditional rulers at the meeting recalled that they agreed at the meeting to set up a means of monitoring the activities of the herdsmen and find a way to report their atrocities as soon as possible for action.

A traditional ruler at the meeting said: "Recently a police division in Ikole-Ekiti was attacked and destroyed. One of the buildings in the division was burnt down and there was even a failed attempt to raid the armoury of the station.

"Everyone of us thought it was armed robbery and we all concluded that that is what it was. But we later found out that it was the Fulani that attacked the police division.

"They blocked the road leading to Ijèsà Isu community and a priest, who had caused the arrest of one of the Fulanis whose cattle destroyed his farm, was attacked and killed. They didn't stop at that. They also attacked the police station, burnt it and destroyed it. That is the situation and that is what we suffer and there is no solution in sight as we speak. The security agents appear helpless and we are helpless."

Not too serious in Kwara

The menace of Fulani herdsmen and local farmers is relatively low in Kwara State compared with incessant cases in other parts of the country.

At various times in the past, local farmers in such agrarian communities and local government areas of Baruten, Kaiama, Edu, Ilorin East, among others have had their shares of nasty experiences with attendant loss of economic cash crops and bodily injuries at the hands of the herdsmen.

On April 13, 2015, a bloody clash erupt-

of the state between the Yoruba indigenes and the nomadic Fulani, popularly referred to as Bororo. The incident reportedly claimed many lives among the two groups of people.

It was gathered that the traditional ruler of Oro Ago town, Oba Johnson Dada, in conjunction with other village chiefs/council of elders had said that no one was allowed to carry along with him/her weapons to the market on any of the market days in the town.

Speaking on the development, the president of Oro Ago Development Union, Chief Richard Olushola, said, "when the Bororo, who carried weapons along with them to the market on a market day were challenged to know why they had to flout the monarch's order; rather than explain or in the least be apologetic, they threw caution to the wind, initiated mayhem and macheted some indigenes of Oro Ago. Thus confusion and chaos ensued, putting an end to the hitherto peaceful transactions in the market as indigenes ran helter skelter, scampering for safety. The situation led to a complete breakdown of law and order with vehicles, motorcycles and houses belonging to indigenes set ablaze," he said.

Chief Olushola, who said the alleged criminal activities of the Bororo settlers were not the first of its kind, added that, "we have had to bear with their excesses for the sake of peace in times past. Some of their past nefarious acts include constant encroachment into indigenes' farmland with their cows thereby destroying agricultural products, such as maize, guinea corn and cassava, intermittent armed robbery attacks, shooting and macheting indigenes while working on their farms for challenging them against bringing their cows to graze on their farms, including rape."

Also, in Alapa area of Asa Local Govern-