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One killed, 3 injured as fire razes Fulani settlement

Yekini Jimoh | Lokoja

A two-year-old boy was killed while three women were injured when a Fulani settlement at Jingbe in Ajaoakuta Local Government Area of Kogi State was razed by fire overnight.

Nigerian Tribune gathered in Lokoja on Sunday that the settlement, made up of 87 thatched huts and inhabited by over 300 Fulani people, was gutted by

fire at about 2:00 a.m. on Saturday when the people were fast asleep.

The fire was suspected to have been ignited by game hunters who are yet to be identified.

Briefing newsmen on the development, the acting chairman of the state branch of the Miyetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association of Nigeria (MACBAN), Ardo Bello Garatu, said that the incident happened in the early

hours of Saturday.

Garatu, who spoke through Mr Adamu Abubakar, the state acting assistant secretary of the association, confirmed that a two-year-old male child died in the incident while three women sustained various degrees of injuries.

He said that the victims, apart from being rendered homeless, lost cash and personal valuables worth millions of naira.

Garatu said the victims, including children, are now being forced to live in the open.

He, therefore, called for urgent intervention from the Kogi State governor, Alhaji Yahaya Bello.

The association also appealed to the Federal Government to direct the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to immediately come to the aid of the victims.