

Suspected bandits behead farmer in Kogi

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SUSPECTED bandits, on Monday, beheaded one Suleiman Abdulkareem in his farm in Bagana in Omala Local Government Area of Kogi State.

Bagana, a village of over 20,000 inhabitants, situated on the bank of River Benue,

had been attacked on several occasions by suspected bandits and herdsmen.

A resident of the community who spoke to newsmen on the condition of anonymity, said the deceased, who was an easy-going man, went to the farm on the day of the incident to harvest some farm produce when he was at-

tacked and killed by gunmen. The source added that when the news of his murder filtered into town, members of the vigilance group and hunters mobilised themselves to the scene, but the assailants had already left before they got there.

He said: "We have been under attack since 2013. The

marauders would come to the town, attack us, kill our able-bodied men and burn down the village. This happened in 2015 and 2019 and we have lost above 300 people and almost half of the village has been burnt down."

In a similar circumstance, a man at Abejukolo, also in Omala Local Government

Area, had his limb chopped off while on his farm by a suspected herder who claimed the farmer had the audacity to challenge him (herder) for destroying his farm.

The victim is currently at the General Hospital in Abejukolo, where he is being treated.

While speaking with news-

men, the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) in the council area, DSP John Ogbebor, confirmed the two incidents.

DSP Ogbebor said on receipt of the distress call about the farmer who was beheaded, he drafted his men to the scene, but the perpetrators had left before their arrival.