

Gunmen kill one person, injure two others in Plateau

Isaac Shobayo | Jos

THERE is tension in Riyom Local Government Area of Plateau State as gunmen ambushed three persons, leading to the death of one Amos Elisha.

It was learnt that the three identified as Amos Elisha, Daniel Sati and Stephen Umar were returning from market around 7.34 p.m. on Monday when they were ambushed by gunmen suspected to be killer-herdsmen at Nad community of the local government area.

A source close to the community disclosed that the gunmen opened fire on them, killing Elisha on the spot and injuring the other two.

He added that after carrying out the dastardly act, the gunmen disappeared into nearby hills.

Director, Emancipation Centre for Crisis Victims in Nigeria-ECCVN, Dalyop Solomon, who confirmed the incident, said residents of most communities in Riyom Local Government Area of the state are living in fear as a result of incessant attacks on the natives by herds-

men.

He narrated that the gunmen had launched several attacks on the communities without provocation, adding that attacks are often carried out primarily to scare natives away from their ancestral homes for possible occupation.

"There is no justification for all these attacks on the natives. Most of the people living in these communities can no longer go to their farms for fear of being attacked. The herdsmen hide under the guise of grazing to attack innocent people with the aim of frustrating them out of their ancestral land.

"Our appeal is for the government to ban open grazing, be more proactive and work with the locals to fish out the perpetrators and prosecute them accordingly. In most of these communities, land grabbing has become a norm, with natives abandoning their farms and houses for fear of being attacked," he said.

Meanwhile, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), ASP Gabriel Ubah, could not be reached as of the time of filing this report.