

# Four cattle herders killed in Anambra, Miyetti Allah alleges

Michael Ovat | Awka

THE South-East chapter of the Miyetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association of Nigeria (MACBAN) has alleged that four of its members were killed with several cows missing during an attack on its members in Anambra State.

The zonal chairman of the association, Alhaji Gidado Siddiki, who disclosed this while briefing journalists on Sunday morning in Awka, the state capital, on the attacks that took place at the Mohammed Idris Herder's Settlement, located at Ogboji, in Orumba South Local Government Area of the state on Saturday.

Siddiki alleged that the four herders killed made up the total number of 21 herders who have been killed so far between January and March this year, in the state.

He gave the names of the four victims as Hadari Umaru, Hamidu Umaru, Aliu Idris and Hassan Idris.

Explaining what happened, Siddiki said in the early hours of Saturday, a herder who escaped the attack "called me and told me that some gunmen in a

*Hilux* vehicle with red caps, invaded the Mohammed Idris Cattle Settlement and were shooting sporadically, and that led to the death of four of our members, while hundreds of cows were scattered all over the area.

He said out of the four, police have only recovered one body, while three others are still missing."

Siddiki also alleged that two herders were killed in a similar manner in Ishiagu in Ivo Local Government Area of Ebonyi State.

The President-General of Ogboji community, Mr Mike Obidike, who confirmed the incident in a telephone interview with **Nigerian Tribune**, said "some gunmen with their faces covered, invaded our town on Friday night and started shooting sporadically. In the process, they engaged the herders who were in their own on a gun duel, which led to some casualties.

Also confirming the incident, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), CSP Haruna Mohammed, said the commissioner of police has ordered full-scale investigation into the attack.

Mohammed said the perpetrators would be arrested and brought to justice.