

Suspected herdsmen kill monarch, three others in Benue

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| Makurdi

FOUR persons were reportedly killed in the early hours of Wednesday by suspected herdsmen in separate attacks in Benue State.

① According to report from the affected areas, a traditional ruler, Chief Hyacinth Ajon, and one other person, identified as Benjamin Anakula, were reportedly killed at Tse Zoola in Makurdi council area.

② Two other persons were reportedly killed at about

8:00 p.m. same day at Mbayer-Yandev Council Ward in Guma Local Government Area of the state.

The state governor, Samuel Ortom, had paid a condolence visit to Tse Zoola on Wednesday while returning from a burial in the area.

While consoling the people, the governor had asked the villagers if they had not rustled herdsmen's cows in the past, and the community elder, Aho Zoola, said there was nothing like that, adding that his people had

never had any issues with herdsmen, even when their cows graze on their crops.

Pa Zoola disclosed that the armed herdsmen stormed the village at about 2:00 a.m. when the people were fast asleep and killed the two persons.

③ In the second attack, the chairman of Guma LGA, Caleb Aba, confirmed the attack on Mbayer-Yandev community, just as he told journalists on phone that the incident occurred at about 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday.

④ He said: "It happened at about 8:00 p.m., though my attention was drawn to the incident at about 9:00 p.m., that herdsmen invaded Mbayer-Yandev council ward, killing two persons and injuring three others."

He said those injured had been taken to the Benue State University Teaching Hospital (BSUTH) for treatment.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Catherine Anene, could not be reached as of the time of filing this report.