

Herdsmen kill three in Ondo, set community ablaze

Amotekun in gun duel with invaders, as Police vow to bring perpetrators to book

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AT least three person were reportedly shot dead by some Fulani herdsmen who invaded Molege community in the Ose Local Government Area of Ondo state, injuring many others.

The rampaging Fulani herdsmen reportedly razed Elerinla village near Arimogija over alleged refusal of the villagers to allow the herders and their cows to feed from their farmlands.

It was gathered that the herdsmen mobilised to the village in the middle of the night and set the two villages and farms on fire, destroying property worth millions of Naira.

According to a source, the villagers ran away from their homes in the middle of the night while the herdsmen invaded their homes, setting their property on fire.

Confirming the invasion

of the herdsmen, the state Commander of Amotekun, Chief Adeleye Adetunji, said that some suspected herdsmen, who invaded the village, also attacked men of the state security outfit, Amotekun.

He explained that "while on a routine patrol at Molege in Ose Local Government Area of Ondo State, our men were informed that some nearby villages in Molege had been taken over by herdsmen while they burnt down some people's properties.

"We moved in with three patrol vehicles and took control of the situation in the village.

"On their way back, some men suspected to be herdsmen suddenly opened fire on our men in an unprovoked attack because Amotekun does not want to start shooting people.

"We are trying to find out who they are as an adequate investigation is on-

going. We urg the people of the community to come back to their homes as peace has returned to the village."

Adetunji was however silent on the casualties recorded during the forceful invasion of the village by the bandits.

However, fear has gripped the residents of the community following reports that the herdsmen had perfected plans to invade and overrun other villages and camps overnight.

But the state police command has assured the people of the area of security of life and property, with a vow to bring those behind the killing and destruction to book.

The Commissioner of Police, Oyeyemi Oyediran, stated this during a visit to Melenge camp on Friday for an on the spot assessment to ascertain the level of damage and destruction caused in the area.

The Police chief who said men of the state police command are on the trail of the suspected marauders who attacked the camp and razed houses overnight in the community.

The CP who met with the community leders and residents encouraged them and allayed their fears, vowed to arrest and prosecute all those involved in the evil act accordingly.

Oyeyemi said the command had deployed men of the Special Squads and PMF personnel to the community to ensure the protection of life and property in the area.

He said "The command is also using this opportunity to assure the good people of Ondo State of adequate protection of their lives and property in the state and are enjoined to give the Police genuine information that will help reduce crime to the barest minimum in the State."

Ekiti govt meets young business owners, seeks private sector driven economy