Police arrest herder who killed employer, stole 20 cows, 14 sheep in Iseyin

By Soji Ajibola

A 25-year-old suspected cattle rustler has been arrested for allegedly killing and burying his employer in a shallow grave before escaping with his 20 cows and 14 sheep in Iseyin, Oyo State.

This is just as the police confirmed the arrest of 33 suspects for various criminal offences at different locations in the state.

The suspected herder was said to have hacked his employer to death inside Soku forest in Iseyin Local Government Area of the state.

The suspect, according to the police, used a club which was later recovered by the police as exhibit to carry out the crime.

Confirming the incident while parading the victim alongside 33 other suspects at state police command, Eleyele, Ibadan on Friday, the Commissioner of Police, Adebola Hamzat, through the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Adewale Osifeso, said the suspect was nabbed at Kara market while trying to dispose the stolen cows and sheep.

The police boss said: "On September 17, at about 6:30a.m, actionable information was received at the command's Monitoring Unit from a credible source from Iseyin town, that a nomadic cattle herder was sighted at Kara market, looking for a cattle dealer who would buy large herd of cattle.

"Sequel to this credible information, a team of operatives attached to the unit at Iseyin town were deployed for swift intervention and in the process, the suspect was arrested and upon interrogation, he confessed that he is a cattle rustler and subsequently led the operatives to the forest where he concealed 20 live cows and 14 sheep that he rustled from his employer.

"However, upon further investigation to Soku forest where he claimed to have carried out the act, it was discovered that the suspect had killed the owner of the animals [his employer] and buried him in a shallow grave.

"The club which he confessed to have used to attack and killed his employer was equally recovered from the scene."