

Panic as ritual killers attack Ilorin residents

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PANIC has gripped the residents of Ilorin, the Kwara State capital, as ritual killers are said to be on the prowl in the serene town.

Residents of the town now hurry home from their places of work with many of them closing shop as early as 6pm for fear of being attacked.

As at Wednesday morning, our correspondent learnt that at least eight persons had been killed by the hoodlums, believed to be operating as a gang.

It was gathered that the

mode of operation of the group, which was first noticed about one year ago, was to wait in ambush for their unsuspecting victims and aim for their skulls with sharp objects.

An employee of a second generation bank (name withheld) in the town is said to be the latest victim as he was attacked at the gate of his office while on his way home on Tuesday.

The gang is said to be in the habit of inflicting deep cuts, especially in the head of their prey, and using a white handkerchief to mop the blood while the victim bleeds

to death.

Activities of the brigands, who reportedly operate between 7pm and 10pm, came to light in what seemed like a welcome party for the former Commissioner of Police in the state, Mr. Donald Iroham, but was quelled thereafter.

A new commissioner, Mr. Mamman Sule, has assumed office in the state about a month ago.

The victims of the assault in the last two weeks include a man, simply identified as Mr. Otami, a senior correspondent with the

Nigerian Television Authority, who had come to the state to cover the just concluded Super Four competition in the state.

Also a pregnant female nurse was reportedly attacked at Panat junction on Ilorin/Jebba road. She was said to have died on the way to the hospital.

Also, in the list of their victims was one Mr. Reuben Madamori, a 60-year old member of staff in the Works Department of the University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital who was attacked in the same manner.