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## Suspected Fulani gunmen kill nine in fresh Nasarawa crisis

DECEMBER 4, 2014 BY UMAR MUHAMMED 2 COMMENTS

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At least, nine persons were feared dead and scores injured as gunmen, suspected to be Fulani insurgents, on Tuesday evening launched an attack on Ashige community of Lafia East Development Area of Nasarawa State.

The incident, according to eyewitness' account, occurred at 5pm when the AK 47-wielding Fulani gunmen attacked farmers who were returning home after laying ambush for them around River Ashangwa.

Speaking to our correspondent in Lafia, one of those who conveyed the corpses of their kinsmen to the Dalhatu Araf Specialist Hospital, Lafia, Mr. Gimba Audu, explained that his younger brother was one of those attacked by the gunmen.

He said he was currently receiving treatment in an undisclosed hospital in Lafia, after sustaining a gunshot injury on the head during the attack.

Also speaking, one of the survivors, Mr. Michael Danladi, said, "Fulani men attacked us on our way back from the farm at about 5pm, shooting at us sporadically. They killed nine instantly."

According to him, nine other people sustained varying degrees of injury and have been taken to private hospitals in Lafia and Ashige for treatment. He added that five persons were still unaccounted for.

He said that the invasion took place four kilometres from Ashige town. He therefore called on Governor Tanko Al-Makura to provide security in the area, particularly as it presently played host to internally displaced persons from Alawagana, Assakio and other adjoining villages ravaged by the recent attacks in the state.

The councillor representing Ashige/Ugah Ward in the Lafia Local Government Area, Juliana Dauda, who hails from the area, told our correspondent that she was alerted to the unfortunate incident on Wednesday morning and upon visiting DASH, counted nine dead bodies.

She said, "After I was informed this morning, I went to the specialist hospital and counted nine dead bodies. As I am talking to you, the matter has been reported to the Police who told us they are on top of the situation."

Confirming the incident to our correspondent in Lafia, the Police Public Relations Officer, Nasarawa State Command, DSP Ugochukwu Theodore, stated that the information regarding the incident was still sketchy as of the time of filing this report.

He assured the people that the police would find out the cause of the incident.

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