

Six killed in Fulani, Gwari, Benue communal clashes

July 9, 2016 2:20 am

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An 84-year-old man and three others were on Thursday evening killed in a clash between members of the Fulani and Gwari tribes in Lambata, Gurara Local Government Area of Niger State.

Three of the deceased were Fulani men while the other dead person was a man from Gwari.

Three others have been declared missing by the Mayetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association, the umbrella body for the Fulanis in the state.

According to reports, houses belonging to both Fulani and Gwari were burnt during the fracas. Cash estimated to be N850, 000 was also said to have been stolen in the process.

Trouble started when some Fulani boys grazing cattle allowed the animals to stray into the farms of the Gwari people leading to the destruction of several crops.

Owners of the farmland were said to have attempted to apprehend the young boys, but they fled to their settlement.

An argument, which thereafter ensued between some Gwari men and the Fulani elders over the issue, led to breakdown of law and order.

Vice President of the Mayetti Cattle Breeders Association, North Central Zone, Alhaji Huassaini Bosso, received the bodies of the three Fulani men at the Minna General Hospital mortuary before they were taken to Paiko town for burial.

The police spokesperson, Niger State Command, Bala Elikana, confirmed the incident. He said peace had returned to the troubled community.

Also, two persons, Mr. Sylvester John and Mr. Onoja Agbo, were on Thursday killed while several others were left injured during a clash between Edumoga and Okpoga communities in Okpokwu Local Government Area of Benue State.

The spokesperson, Benue State Police Command, Moses Yamu, confirmed the incident.

He said one of the injured victims was rushed to St. Mary's hospital in Okpoga, but later died.

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