

Gunmen kill five women, raze village in Southern Kaduna

December 26, 2016



Governor of Kaduna State, Nasir El-Rufai

Godwin Isenyo, Kaduna

Again, gunmen struck in Goskan Village, Kafanchan, in Jema'ah Local Government Area of Kaduna State, killing about five persons, mostly women.

Parts of Goska, about five kilometres away from Kafanchan were razed.

It was learnt that the attackers invaded the village on Saturday evening as residents were preparing for the Christmas eve.

Despite the heavy presence of police operatives in the village, the villagers said no help came to them until the attackers, suspected to be Fulani herdsmen left.

The remains of a 14-year-old daughter of a former Chairman of Jema'a LGA, Gideon Morik, who was among the dead, were reportedly deposited at the Kafanchan General Hospital mortuary.

A source also told our correspondent that two other women were killed by the assailants in the village.

As of the time of filing this report, soldiers loaded in five luxury buses had headed towards the troubled area.

Meanwhile, Governor Nasir el-Rufai has condemned the attack, noting that the attackers would not know peace.

He described the attack as inhumane and handiwork of forces of darkness.

The governor empathised with the families of the victims and charged the security agencies to redouble their efforts in ensuring that there was no attacks in the southern part of the state again.

His Special Assistant on Media and Publicity, Samuel Aruwan, quoted the governor as having said that, "While the government and security agencies were working assiduously to block all windows to ensure that citizens throughout the three Local Government Areas are protected and the state at large, these forces of darkness that represent evil and inhumanity struck again killing innocent citizens, burnt their houses and injured some and terrified many.

"Government and security agencies will not be deterred, we will continue to be resilient, up and doing and courageous in tackling this unfortunate situation. Their tactics are to create a chasm, divide the people, breed hate and prejudice and plunge the state into chaos but we will triumph over these evil forces by the grace of the Almighty God.

"No amount of evil will change our deep commitment. We will continue to be firm, decisive and put the protection of lives of our citizenry and their well being as our ultimate goal.

"We will see the end of these messengers of hell who are out to cause pains by attacking unsuspecting citizens in our communities. They are threats to our existence; they are deviants that we must all join our hands together irrespective of religion, ethnicity and political inclinations to confront.

"They become stronger only when our people are divided instead of coming together to weaken and neutralise them and the evil they represent and to free our humanity from their devilish act."

The governor also directed the State Emergency Management Agency to take inventory of those affected and also provide relief materials to the victims of the attack.

“Our deep empathy and prayers go to the families that lost their loved ones, those that lost their homes and properties. May their souls rest in peace and may God see us through this challenging time.”

Meanwhile, Governor Simon Lalong of Plateau State has appealed to the people of Dogo Nahawa community to forgive those who killed hundreds of their relations and embrace peace.

Over 484 people of the community, including women and children, were massacred by unknown gunmen on March 7, 2010.

Lalong, who was in the community to celebrate Christmas with the orphans and widows, told them to leave vengeance for God.

The governor said God would avenge for the people without them doing it themselves.

He added, “All we can do now is to pray for peaceful rest for those killed and I appeal to you to sustain and build on the existing peace.”

The governor commended the President, Arm of Hope Foundation, Port Harcourt, Apostle Eugene Ogu, for establishing the first secondary school in the community.

He said, “The people and government of Plateau State cannot reward him but God will.”

According to him, anyone that assists widows and orphans will definitely be assisted by God.

He promised that the state government would attend to some of the needs of the school and the community as highlighted by the principal of the school and community leaders.

On his part, Ogu said he was in Jos on the day of the sad incident and he was one of the first persons that visited the ugly scene of the massacre.

He added that he immediately took the widows and children to Port Harcourt for two weeks to enable them to overcome the trauma.

A community leader, Mr. Luka Chuwang, appreciated Ogu for his kindness and support to the community.