

Herdsmen kill six Tiv in Nasarawa

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Umar Muhammed, Lafia

Gunmen suspected to be Fulani herders have invaded Jimin Nyaku village in the Alosi Chiefdom and Guidan Ayua, Kadarko area, in the Keana Local Government Area of Nasarawa State, killing six Tiv people.

The PUNCH gathered that the attackers killed a father and his son in the Jimin Nyaku attack, which took place at about 6pm on Saturday. In another attack on Sunday, four persons were reportedly killed at Gidan Ayua on the outskirts of Kadarko town along the Nasarawa – Benue borders.

One of the villagers, Mr. Terwase Adagher, told our correspondent that the gunmen emerged from the bush and opened fire on the villagers, killing four.

He said, “We were sitting in our compound at Gidan Ayua yesterday (Sunday) at about 7pm when herdsmen armed with sophisticated weapons, suddenly appeared from a nearby bush and started shooting into the air. I narrowly escaped by God’s grace but four of my relations were killed by the attackers.”

The President of the Tiv Youth Organisation in Nasarawa State, Peter Ahemba, who confirmed the incident to our correspondent, said the bodies of the victims had been kept in the mortuary in the Dalhatu Araf Specialist Hospital, Lafia.

“Those attacking and killing our people because of a law in Benue State are not being fair to us. We are citizens of Nasarawa State, so while kill us because of what we don’t know?

“In the latest attack, some leaders of the herdsmen claimed it was in reprisal for the alleged killing of a Fulaniman in Yelwata in Benue; so, if that is true, why should the herdsmen attack innocent Tiv villagers in Nasarawa State?.”

But, the Police Public Relation Officer, Nasarawa State command, DSP Idirisu Kennedy, who confirmed the death of three persons in a telephone interview, said the command only received a report of three persons that lost their lives in the attack.

“The command only received three dead bodies killed in the areas,” he said.