

13 Adamawa vigilantes killed in two months

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The Commander, Adamawa State Branch of the Vigilante Group of Nigeria, Mr Muhammadu Murtala, has said 13 members of the group have been killed and 20 others injured during crime-fighting activities in the past two months.

Murtala said this in an interview with the News Agency of Nigeria on Thursday in Yola.

Murtala said the victims lost their lives in encounters with criminal elements including Boko Haram fighters.

Boko Haram has had a firm grip in many communities in the North-East for over a decade but federal troops now appear to have decapitated them, although the insurgents still launch occasional attacks.

“We have lost no fewer than 13 members with about 20 of our members injured in the course of fighting crimes across the state.

“The sad thing is that a majority of those killed lost their lives in the course of protecting the lives and property of other Nigerians.

“Nobody is taking care or assisting the families and children of our members who lost their lives,” Murtala lamented.

He added that those who sustained injuries had been left to their fate.

He said the group had contributed immensely to crime prevention in the state, noting that the group had also captured about 200 criminals involved in kidnapping, armed robbery and banditry.

The commander said about 20,000 registered members of the body had been deployed across the 21 Local Government Areas of the state.