

Gunmen murder seven in Southern Kaduna communities

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File photo

Godwin Isenyo, Kaduna

Some gunmen suspected to be Fulani herdsmen have killed seven persons in separate attacks in Southern Kaduna communities of Kaduna State.

The Southern Kaduna Peoples Union alleged that the gunmen between Tuesday and Wednesday simultaneously attacked Kugosi and Kajari, all in the Chikun Local Government Area of the state, killing three persons.

The gunmen, the union further alleged, razed houses and property in the communities.

According to a statement by the SOKAPU National Public Relations Officer, Luka Biniyat, less than 24 hours of the attacks in Kugosi and Kajari, another community in the same Chikun LG, Manini village, was attacked and two people were killed.

The union added that after the attacks, the gunmen rustled hundreds of cows and goats, looting and burning houses of their victims.

SOKAPU appealed to well-meaning Nigerians to come to the aid of the displaced persons, adding that “they are in dire need of food, medical attention and temporary shelter.”

The statement added, “In what looks like an unceasing siege on Gbagyi communities of Southern Kaduna, armed Fulani herdsmen last night simultaneously attacked Kugosi and Kajari communities in Chikun ward in the Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State killing three persons.

“They also burnt down homes and property in the communities.

“24 hours to the above attack, rampaging gang of armed herdsmen lay siege to Manini village, in Chikun ward killing two people.

“In the same manner, a day before the Manini violence, a horde of armed herdsmen stormed Katarma village, in the same Chikun ward and killed two family members.

“In the past three days, at least seven persons have been killed by these outlaws.

“Those killed in Manini are Markus Danjuma, a 50-year-old farmer with three wives and 12 children and Sharana Danjuma 42, who left behind a wife and five children.

“The gunmen came on motorcycles around 8pm on Tuesday and started shooting at anything on sight, traumatized villagers told SOKAPU.

“Since the village has suffered similar invasions in the past, the villagers had devised ways of escaping, thus children, women, the aged and all found their ways into the bushes carrying only what they wore.

“Sadly, the two victims were cut down by the bullets of the aggressors for trying to fend off the marauders while others fled, it was learnt,

“As of the time of writing this statement, Kugosi and Kajari had been deserted with scores of villagers wandering in the bush with no food or water.”

The Kaduna State Police Command had yet to confirm the incident.

There was no response to a call and text message sent to the state Police Public Relations Officer, Mohammed Jalige.

Jalige only responded to a WhatsApp message sent to him by our correspondent by simply saying, “I’m in a conference please.”

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