

# Gunmen kill 10 in fresh Taraba attacks

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File photo

## Justin Tyopuusu, Jalingo

At least 10 people were reportedly killed by gunmen in the Wukari Local Government Area of Taraba State.

The caretaker boss of the council, Daniel Adi, who confirmed the killings, however claimed the gunmen were Tiv.

He claimed they ambushed and killed eight Fulani travellers along the Wukari-Rafinkada road.

According to him, Tiv militia also on Tuesday morning killed two people returning from their farms in Byepyi.

But the President-General of the Tiv Cultural and Social Association, Taraba State, Chief Goodman Dahida, debunked Adi's claim.

Dahida said, "There are no Tiv people along Wukari-Rafinkada road where the incident happened. All the Tiv villages in the area have been destroyed by Jukun militia and the place is now deserted.

"The Jukun have tried to woo Fulani to join them in their fight with the Tiv, but they have failed and this trick too will fail.

"I condemn the killing of Fulani in the area. It's very unfortunate. I have contacted the Fulani leadership in Wukari to console them.

"We have to be very careful in situations like these because other groups can disguise and kill innocent persons in order to widen the scope of the conflict."

Dahida called on the security agencies to investigate the killings, calling on Fulani in the state to remain calm and wait the outcome of the investigation.

Spokesman for the police in the state, ASP David Misal, confirmed the incident.

Misal said a commercial vehicle was ambushed by gunmen along the Rafin Kada-Wukari Road and killed eight persons.

However, he said he had yet to be briefed on the killing of two persons on their way from their farms.

Our correspondent reports that the Jukun and the Tiv have been locked in a fierce battle in the state since April 1, 2019, leading to the killing of many and destruction of property worth millions of naira despite a peace meeting to end the crisis.