

Eight killed, children missing in Kaduna communities fresh attacks

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NO fewer than eight persons were reportedly killed in a fresh crisis that erupted in the Jema'a Local Government Area of Kaduna State.

The incidents occurred between Saturday and the early hours of Sunday, a government statement said.

Four persons sustained injuries; two children were also said to have gone missing while four houses were razed during the crisis.

The state Commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs, Mr Samuel Aruwan, said trouble started when a herder, Isiyaka Saidu, was killed by unknown persons on Saturday in Ungwan Pah village, Jema'a LGA.

The commissioner noted that the state government received the operational feedback from the military under the auspices of *Operation Safe Haven*, highlighting the unfortunate incidents.

He said, “The Kaduna State Government has received a report of killing and counter-killing in the Jema’a Local Government Area of the state.

“The state government condemns these attacks and the loss of lives and has directed security agencies to investigate and arrest all persons involved in the criminal actions.

“Governor Nasir El-Rufai has also directed the military and police to accelerate investigation and ensure diligent prosecution of those responsible for the killing.

“The military on Saturday, 28th November, 2020, reported to the government that one herder, Isiyaka Saidu of Ungwan Pah village of Jema’a LGA, was killed by unknown persons with deep knives cut on his head.

“The military further informed the Kaduna State Government that in the course of clearance operation in the general area, it found one herder, Abubakar Alhassan, in his hut at Kussom village and was rushed to Kowa Medical Centre, where a medical doctor confirmed him dead.

“The military further stated that three persons were arrested from Ungwan Pah and Ungwan Bido villages of the same local government area as follows: Victor Markus, Gero David and Thankgod Sunday.

“Security agencies have furthered reported that Ungwan Bido village was attacked today, Sunday, 29th November, 2020, where some local residents were killed and four injured. Two children are missing.

“The six persons killed are Silas Maman, Malaki TabatGeofree Andrew, Anna Ahmadu, Sunday Tagwai and Fidelis Musa.”

Meanwhile, the commissioner added that the state government had ordered immediate investigation into the crisis, stating that the governor sent condolences to the families that lost their loved ones.

“The state government has directed the Kaduna State Emergency Management Agency to, as a matter of urgency, provide relief materials to citizens whose houses were burnt as well as those injured in the attack,” the statement added