Suspected herdsmen kill Taraba village head, two others in night raid

Justin Tyopuusu, Jalingo

TUNMEN suspected to be Fulani, on Monday, killed the Mai-Angwan Tiv in the Kundi district, Zaki Terzungwe Anjua, and two others in an overnight attack in the Bali Local Government Area of Taraba State.

The deceased, who had just returned from an internally displaced persons' camp in Bali on the directive of Governor Darius Ishaku that all displaced persons in the area should be allowed unhindered access to their homes and farmlands, was killed around 10.20pm.

It was gathered that the attackers had taken over the man's farmland and might have decided to kill him to avert trouble should he report them to the governor.

The Maiangwa's son, who

escaped the attack, told our correspondent on the telephone that the attackers invaded their compound around 10.20pm and shot his father before cutting him and two others with cutlasses.

The Executive Chairman, Bali Local Government Council, Prince Musa Mahmoud, told our correspondent in a telephone interview that he had been informed of the attack, but said the casualty figure was still sketchy.

"I have received news of an attack in the area, but I have directed the DPO to go there with his team. For now, I can't confirm any death until the DPO returns and briefs me of the development there," he said.

The attack came barely 48 hours after the Public Relations

Officer of Miyetti Allah, Murtala Usman, informed journalists that the crisis between the Fulani and Tiv in the local government area had been resolved.

He had said, "Leaders of both tribes have met following the directives of Governor Darius Ishaku that the crisis should stop and all displaced persons should return home.

"The council Chairman, Prince Musa Mahmoud, has implemented the governor's directive and the issue has been resolved."

The state Police Public Relations Officer, DSP David Misal, did not take several calls made to him and had yet to reply to a text message sent to his mobile telephone as of the time of filing this report.