

# Two killed in Jigawa farmer-herder clash

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| Agency Report

| Jigawa State map

A clash between herders and farmers in the Birnin Kudu Local Government Area of Jigawa State left two persons dead and three houses burnt on Tuesday.

This was confirmed by the state police command, in a statement by the Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Lawan Shiisu, in Dutse, on Wednesday.

According to the News Agency of Nigeria, the incident occurred after suspected cattle herders from Katsina State allegedly invited by local herdsman invaded and destroyed farmlands in Safa and Gaurakai villages in the area.

“On Tuesday, at about 1600hrs, the command received information from reliable sources that herders with a large number of cattle from Katsina State, on the invitation of the indigenous herders, were sighted moving towards Safa and Gauraki villages.

”As a result of this, farmlands along the route were destroyed.

“On receipt of the ugly report, the Area Commander of Birnin Kudu Area Command mobilised patrol teams alongside Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps and Vigilance Group of Nigeria and rushed to the scenes,” Shiisu said.

He explained that farmers in the affected communities were said to have mobilised in large numbers to defend their farmlands before the arrival of the security team.

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The PPRO added that the parties consequently attacked themselves before the team succeeded in dispersing them.

According to him, as the visiting herders ward off their cattle, two persons, with one from each side, were observed to have lost their lives.

“Three of the indigenous herders’ houses were set on fire and 15 cattle abandoned and belonging to the visiting herders were recovered,” he said.

The PPRO further said that five indigenous herders suspected to have invited the invading herders were arrested.

He said normalcy had since been restored in the affected areas, as police tactical teams, in collaboration with local vigilance group members, hunters, and Yan Bulala, a security network, had been deployed to forestall further breaches of the peace.

Shiisu said the investigation into the case was ongoing, adding that anyone found guilty would be prosecuted accordingly.