

Seven farmers killed in Ebonyi

Uthman Salami



•One of the victims

longstanding land dispute between Akaeze and Umuogwor communities, both in the Ivo LGA.

In an interview with PUNCH Metro on Wednesday, a resident of Akaeze identified

as Okoro David described Monday's killings as "callous and senseless," claiming they were part of a series of attacks targeting farmers from Akaeze.

"This senseless killing of Akaeze people is both troubling

and heartbreaking. It isn't kind to take innocent lives in such a manner. These attacks have been ongoing for over five months now. On Monday, at least seven people were brutally murdered while working on their farmlands, and even now, their bodies are still being recovered.

"Some of the bodies of farmers who lost their lives have been recovered and taken to the morgue. We appeal to the governor and security agencies to intervene and rescue the Akaeze community from these senseless killings.

"We are still searching for some of our people. They only went to the farm to harvest their yam and rice when attacked. We desperately need help. This issue has persisted for a long time. Instead of seeking redress through the courts, the community has resorted to violence, killing innocent people day after day."

In a separate interview with PUNCH Metro, another resident, identified simply as Omezuo, stated that farmers from Akaeze could no longer

Onozure Dania

A Federal Capital Territory High Court, Abuja, sitting in Jabi on Wednesday convicted and sentenced one Internet fraudster, Praise Humphrey Igbo, alias Jessica Allen, to one year imprisonment for \$115,000 fraud.

Justice H.L. Abba-Aliyu, sentenced him after finding him guilty of the offence.

The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission had arraigned him on a count bordering on Internet crime,

criminal impersonation, obtaining money under false pretence, and money laundering.

The EFCC prosecution counsel, M.K. Hussain, told the court that the convict posed as a lady by pretending to be Jessica Allen, a successful cryptocurrency trader in the United States of America. In that assumed character, the convict fraudulently obtained 5.26 Bitcoins worth \$115,000,

the property of Aaron Baker,

Hussain said the incident took place in 2022, in Abuja.

According to the prosecution, the convict committed contravened Section 324 of the Code Act Abuja, Cap 532 punishable under Section 324.

However, Igbo pleaded guilty

Ebonyi community attack

currently have," Ukandu stated. PUNCH Metro reports that Ebonyi State remains one of the states battling with border

and communal clashes in the country in recent times.

A similar attack related to a land dispute resulted in at

least two fatalities during a clash between the Umuogwor and Akaeze communities in November 2024.

Students killed, 23 Injured in Borno auto crash

Uthman Salami

No fewer than two yet-to-be-identified students from Borno State University have been killed in a tragic road accident involving the school staff bus and a truck on Njimtulo Road on Wednesday.

PUNCH Metro learnt from the state police command that three other students were in critical condition after the crash.

The spokesperson for the command, Nahum Kenneth, informed our correspondent that a large truck collided with the university bus, leaving several other students with varying degrees of injury.

Our correspondent learnt that the victims were quickly taken to the Umaru Shehu Specialist Hospital, where they are receiving medical care.

It was also gathered that the



• The accident scene

crash caused significant damage to the bus, and emergency responders swiftly evacuated the injured to the hospital.

Speaking with our correspondent on Wednesday, Kenneth said, "The bus carrying 30 students along Njimtulo Road was involved in a fatal accident

with a truck."

"A male and a female student lost their lives, while three others are currently unconscious at the hospital. Efforts are underway to provide care for the injured.

"Around 20 other students are receiving treatment for injuries of varying severity, while other students escaped the accident unscathed."