

Benue farmer slumps, dies over false attack alarm

John Charles, Makurdi

A 54-year-old farmer from the Usha community in Agatu Local Government Area of Benue State reportedly slumped and died due to false alarms raised by some youths in the village.

Our correspondent learnt on Wednesday that the farmer identified as Jeremiah Onuminya was on his way to the farm on Monday when some boys suddenly shouted 'Fulani! Fulani!! and in a bid to escape ran for dear life.

"Unfortunately, he was a few metres to his house when he slumped and died," a source in the village told our correspondent.

The deceased's farm, according to the locals who spoke to our correspondent, is next to the farm where 20 cows were allegedly poisoned last Saturday.

The Chairman of Agatu Local Government Area, Melvin James, confirmed this in a statement by his media aide, Solomon Obochi, in Makurdi, on Wednesday.

James, who claimed to have reached out to the family of the deceased to console them, said the family turned down his suggestion to conduct an

autopsy.

The statement read in parts, "Agatu Local Government Council deeply mourns the unfortunate demise of Mr Jeremiah Onuminya from Usha Ward, who passed away on March 31, 2025, following a distressing incident triggered by a false alarm about an impending attack.

"Preliminary investigations, corroborated by security agencies and Mr. Onuminya's family indicate that he collapsed due to exhaustion while fleeing, and there was no evidence of any assault by Fulani herdsmen.

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Abiodun Nejo, Ado Ekiti

AN Ekiti State High Court, Ado Ekiti Division, on Wednesday, sentenced a 41-year-old man, Olasunkanmi Kareem, to life imprisonment for attempting to murder his former boss by setting him ablaze.

Kareem was arraigned on November 18, 2024 on a count charge bordering on attempt to