

Mother, son, two others killed in fresh Benue attacks

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| By John Charles

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No fewer than four people were reportedly killed in separate attacks on two Local Government Areas of Benue State by suspected armed herders.

Sources claimed that the incidents happened at Tse-Nyibiam, near Ngbam in Nyiev Council Ward and Mbatyula Council Ward in Guma and Katsina-Ala LGAs, respectively.

The incident at Tse-Nyibiam, near Ngbam in Nyiev Council Ward in Guma LGA claimed the life of a woman and her son.

The woman identified as Mlumun Igbawua and her son, Terkimbir Igbawua, as well as Terkimbir's wife were working on their rice farm on Saturday when suspected armed herders attacked them.

Both the woman and her son were reportedly killed during the attack, while the woman's daughter-in-law was said to have survived after enduring severe torture at the hands of the killers.

Jimin Geofrey, an aide to the immediate past governor of the state, Samuel Ortom, who hails from the LGA, confirmed this to journalists on Sunday.

According to the former aide, the woman, her son, and daughter-in-law were working on their rice farm at Tse-Nyibiam, near Ngban in Nyiev Council ward when the armed herders invaded.

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Geoffrey added that the killing of the woman and her son happened on the same farmland where the victims' husband and father, Benjamin Iorhen Igbawua, was murdered in May.

He said, "The body of the deceased's husband, also killed by armed invaders, is still in the morgue at the time his wife and only son were killed on Saturday."

Meanwhile, the Chairman of Guma LGA, Maurice Orwough, was said to have visited the scene where the mother and son were killed and afterwards, took the wife of the deceased, tortured by the assailants, to the hospital for treatment.

In a related development, two people identified as John Tsebo and Agber Solomon were reportedly killed by suspected armed herders in the Anchaha community and Agu Centre in Tin Mbatyula Council Ward of Katsina-Ala LGA.

A resident of the area who did not want to be mentioned on Sunday said that the duo were reportedly killed separately on July 31 and August 1, 2025.

He said, "We have lived at the mercy of the armed herders for six years. They kill us and destroy our crops at will. We are practically farming for their cows.

Efforts to get the reaction of the spokesperson for the Benue State Command, Udeme Edet, were not successful as her phone rang out as of the time of filing this report.