

New

Plateau killings: More bodies recovered

From Gyang Bere, Jos

AGONISING women and traumatised survivors of the suspected Fulani herdsmen's attack in Ancha village of Bassa Local Government Area of Plateau State are still counting their losses even as the affected communities have agreed to a ceasefire.

Lami Ishaya, a 38-year-old native of Ancha village, told *Daily Sun* that she lost all her four children in the attack even as one died yesterday at the Bingham University Teaching Hospital, Jos, due to gunshot injuries. The widow, whose cry of despair has become her companion, also lost her husband, mother and father-in-law during the heartbreaking and horrible attack, leaving her alone in the entire compound.

Meanwhile, the 26-year-old widow of the Fulani man who was beheaded and buried in a shallow grave one week after the Ancha village attack that claimed over 24 lives, Wasila Jibriel, has said that the death of her husband will ever remain green in her mind.

The widows spoke in separate peace meetings convened yesterday by the member representing Jos North/Bassa Federal Constituency of Plateau State in the House of Representatives, Hon. Suleiman Kwande, to broker peace between Ancha village and the Fulani community in the area.

Paramount ruler of Miango, the Bra Irigwe, Rev. Ranku Aka (retd.), said two more bodies were recovered in the bush, bringing the death toll of the attack to 24. He appealed to his subjects and the Fulani community never to contemplate such again and called for peace and harmonious living among themselves.

Chairman of Miyitti Allah Cattle Breeders Association, Bassa Local Government Area, Umar Dakare, said two Fulani people were missing even before the attack and pledged that the Fulani community and the natives would unite to fight criminality in the council.

Suleiman begged the communities to cease fire in the interest of peace and return to harmonious living, in which they had practiced inter-marriage. He presented foodstuff and other relief materials to displaced members of Ancha community and the widow of the beheaded Fulani man, Abubakar Jibriel.

Media and information officer of the Special Task Force, Captain Adam Umar, yesterday confirmed that one soldier was killed and another badly injured during the Ancha village attack.