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Benue warlords allegedly invade Ebonyi community, kill 5

• We'll bring situation under control - Gov

From **Obinna Odogwu,**
Abakaliki

FIVE people were, yesterday, hacked to death in Ekwashi Mgbo and Ukwuagba communities in Ohaukwu Local Government Area of Ebonyi State, by warlords suspected to be operating from Agila community in Ado Local Government Area of Benue State.

The attackers, according to residents of the affected communities, swooped in on the victims while they worked in their farms. They also disclosed that some of their kinsmen were seriously injured

even as others have been reported missing.

Giving an account of the incident, Regent of Ukwuagba community, Prince Emmanuel Igboke, said some of the victims were beheaded even as vital body parts were cut off and taken away.

Prince Igboke narrated that he received a distress call that attackers arrived the farmland in the noon of that fateful day and had mowed two women and a man while others sustained varying degrees of injuries.

"This is not the first, second or third time these people are bring war to us.

They have killed many of our villagers and destroyed several farmland worth several millions even when we have maintained peace," he explained.

The regent disclosed that the two people killed at Ekwashi Mgbo were beheaded and their legs, hands and vital organs taken away by the attackers. The visibly traumatised Igboke appealed to the state and federal governments to wade into the age-long boundary dispute between the two communities with a view to proffering lasting solution.

In his reaction, Ebonyi Governor, David Umahi,

represented by his deputy, Dr. Kelechi Igwe, commiserated with the bereaved families, and assured them that the state government would not leave any stone unturned to ensure that the situation would be brought under control.

He regretted that several agreements reached by both communities, to cease fire and embrace lasting peace were not honoured by the Benue community.

Umahi, however, assured the community that government would get to the root of the matter and ensure that the right is done.

Okorocho: Imo elders petition Buhari

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