

## Villagers discover 30 decomposing bodies in Kaduna

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June 1, 2020

Baba Negedu KADUNA



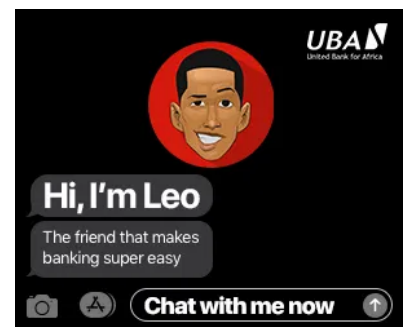
### •As SOKAPU tackles police over Kajuru killings

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he Southern Kaduna Peoples Union (SOKAPU) yesterday disclosed that villagers in Kajuru Local Government Area of the state have discovered 30 decomposing bodies of those killed by suspected Fulani herdsmen in the area.

The umbrella body of the Southern Kaduna People in a statement said the villages includes, : "Magunguna, Idazo, Unguwan Galadima, Unguwan Guza, Etissi, Unguwan Maaji, Unguwan Dantata, Unguwan Araha 1, Unguwan Araha 2, Unguwan Goshi, Unguwan Shaban, Unguwan Jibo, Unguwan Maijama'a, Unguwan Sako, Unguwan Maidoki and Unguwan Masaba, Libere and Mashigin Boka."

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The statement signed by Luka Binniyat, National Public Relations Officer of SOKAPU also called on the "Federal Government to also deploy the same military might it is wielding in Sokoto and Katsina states in fighting bandits for Southern Kaduna."

This is as they also called on the "United Nations, Amnesty International, the International Criminal Court, European Union Commission and all international and national bodies that matter to come to our aid."

According to the statement, before the attacks started: "Fulani residents of these communities became hosts to strange Fulani, who rode in on score of motorbikes on May 18. Despite assurances by the local Fulani to their long time Adara hosts, that the unfriendly looking guests meant no harm to them, it turned to be a ruse.

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"When one helicopter hovered over the villages at very low altitude, they recalled how the sighting of such helicopters meant death, as told by their kinsmen from other parts who had suffered killings in 2019.

"Some of the villagers started moving out their children, wives and the old.

"Then in the evening of 19th May, 2020, all hell broke loose. From village to village, the Fulani started shooting, burning homes, churches, foodstuffs and killing people. The invaders also looted valuables and rustled livestock."

The statement said: "Between the 19th to the 21st of May 2020, despite desperate SOS calls to relevant authorities for assistance, not a single police, military personnel, SSS, Civil Defence or any government official came.

"As at yesterday, the villagers said those who braved it to return to their villages to find situation of things, said there were at least 30 decomposing corpses strewn about the villages. The Fulani invaders are still patrolling these villages as at yesterday."

According to the villagers, "more might have died either of gunshots wounds, or from fatal injuries from matchete cuts. As at yesterday 30th May, 2020, there were not less than 60 villagers that had been missing since 19th May, 2020 when the onslaught started. We were given some of the names of the dead and missing ones."

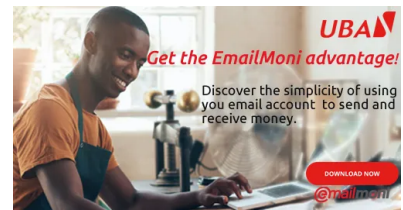
Binniyat also said: "There are currently 5 IDP centres in that axis, with the biggest being in Kallah town. So far, not less than 50,000 Adara natives have been displaced in Kajuru LGA since last year.

"In all their narrations yesterday, two things stood out: the invaders came from a neighboring Fulani settlement that locals call "Tampol" which is Laduga grazing reserves."

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SOKAPU said: "These are some of the reasons that SOKAPU is insisting that the unrelenting violence visited on the Adara nation in Kajuru LGA, and other affected Southern Kaduna communities have all the elements of ethnic cleansing.

"All that these innocent, harmless law abiding Adara natives want is for them to be allowed to bury their dead with dignity. It is inhumanity of the worst form to desecrate



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the dead in this manner.

“They want the invaders chased out so that they can return to their homes and start life from the scratch.”

The statement also said the police was not speaking the truth when they issued a statement signed by its Spokesman, ASP Mohammed Jalige and. “strongly descended on the President of Adara Development Association (ADA) Mr Awemi Dio Maisamari that he issued a press statement on the 28th May, 2020 in which the police accused him of making ‘fake and malicious’ statement claiming that 20 persons were killed after the 12-13th May, 2020 violence that engulfed Gonan Rogo, Makyali and Unguwan Rana communities all in Kajuru LGA, in Southern parts of the state.”

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