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ABEOKUTA

Killer herdsmen attack Ogun village, kill farmer

A farmer, identified as Dele Olowoni, has been slaughtered by suspected Fulani herdsmen while asleep on his farm settlement at Oha village, Imeko, in Imeko-Afon Local Government Area of Ogun State.

Olowoni's lifeless body was said to have been discovered by his wife on Sunday morning.

There were several matchete cuts on the deceased's neck and other parts of the body.

A source told New Telegraph that unknown Fulani herdsmen stormed the village

in the midnight with guns and cutlass and allegedly killed Olowoni on his farm settlement.

He said: "One of our brothers here in Imeko was killed in the early hours of today (Sunday) around 1a.m. by Fulani herdsmen."

"They stormed the village during the midnight with

guns and cutlasses, they were shooting sporadically, destroying all our properties, and even destroyed all our farms.

"Dele Olowoni was slaughtered by the killer Fulani herdsmen at Oha village, Imeko, in Imeko-Afon. After killing him, they left for Iwoye Ketu."

However, the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) of the state police command, DSP Abimbola Oyeyemi confirmed the incident.

He however, said the killers were yet to be apprehended.

Meanwhile, the governorship candidate of the

African Democratic Party (ADC) in the 2019 election in Ogun State, Prince Gboyega Nasir Isiaka, yesterday condemned the attack on Oha village in Imeko, Imeko-Afon local government area of the State by suspected Fulani herdsmen.

Isiaka, a former politician from Imeko-Afon local government called for a thorough investigation into the incident which led to the gruesome murder of the farmer.

He said: "I am traumatised by this gruesome and inhuman act that has left myself, the communities and well-meaning Nigerians devastated."

"Those who perpetrated this evil are not only enemies of Imeko-Afon, but enemies of Nigeria and humanity. This has continued unabated for too long and it is clear something must be done to halt the endless killing of our people."

FG set to perform groundbreaking of Kano-Maradi rail project

Chukwu David
ABUJA

President Muhammadu Buhari will tomorrow perform groundbreaking of Kano-Maradi rail line to commence the 284km standard gauge rail project by a Portuguese firm Messrs Mota-Engil Nigeria Ltd.

According to a statement by Taiye Elebiyo-Edani, Media Assistant to

corridor connecting Lagos-Kano and subsequently to the Republic of Niger through the border town of Maradi.

The project which is a standard gauge railway line of about 284km would traverse Kano-Dambatta-Kazaure-Daura-Mashi-Katsina-Jibiya-Maradi in Niger Republic.

According to the statement, the line has been designed to pass close to major cities, town and villages

is planned to have a total of 15 stations including Maradi which comprises 2 main stations in Kano and Katsina, 3 medium stations in Kazaure, Daura and Jibiya, 3 small stations in Shagalle, Dambatta and Mashi, with other Halt stations at the Airport, Kunya Dube, Muduru, Daddara, Anoa Mata and Maradi.

"The rail line which has a branch line to Kano-Dutse is important because of its potential in harness-

ing raw materials and agro products along the corridor.

"The project when completed will serve domestic industries and play the role of a viable transportation backbone, linking countries in the West Africa sub-region starting with the neighbouring Niger Republic for their import and export logistics chain.

"In the process, the volume of trade in the coun-

try will increase while promoting the realisation of Nigeria's interest on the Africa Free Trade Single Market Area formulation.

"The railway will account for average freight carriage forecast of 1,043,980.5 tons annually in the first 10 years of operation within its short corridor and a forecast of average passenger traffic of 3,543,637.9 annually within the same period."