

Babatope Okeowo,
AKURE

Protest in Ondo as suspected herders kill ex-LG chair, 53-year-old father, abduct son

There was protest in Akure, the Ondo State capital, yesterday over the killing of a former local government chairman, a 53-year-old father, Ohiremen Isaac Odeh, whose son was abducted by suspected herders, turned kidnappers in Ose Local Government Area of the state.

The community leaders who were in Akure to protest the incessant kidnapping and killing in the area said the former Chairman of the local government, Mr Bola Adelegbe was killed because of the delay in the payment of ransom by the family.



Solomon Isaac Odeh

Ohiremen Isaac Odeh was also killed and his son kidnapped on their way to the farm in Ijagba community of state and the son was only released after the payment of N400,000.00 ransom by the family.

Speaking through the Prime Minister of Ijagba community, Chief Sunday Ogoh, the community protested the incessant attack, kidnapping, and killing of residents by suspected herders, saying communities in the area are now under the siege of terrorists.

While raising the alarm over the unending criminal activities of herders in their community, Ogoh said; "we are constrained to inform the Ondo State government of the disheartening incident in Ose Local Government south axis

particularly in Ijagba town.

"We came here to inform the whole world of what is happening in our local government area, especially in Ijagba community, for the past two years we have not been having peace of mind in our community, with a lot of kidnapping, killing, burning of our houses, farmlands by these Fulani herders that have been terrorising the community.

"Just three days ago, we lost one of our illustrious sons by name Ohiremen Isaac Odeh while the son too, named Solomon Isaac Odeh also attacked on their way to the farm. Apart from that, in that area, we also lost one of our former Chairmen, Mr. Bola Adelegbe.

"In search for the victims in the bush, it was discovered that Mr. Ohiremen Isaac Odeh was killed by the abductors, while his lifeless body was found after trekking some kilometers in the bush.

"On the same day, the remains of

Mr. Ohiremen Isaac Odeh has been deposited in the mortuary, while a ransom of four hundred thousand naira, (N400,000) was paid to the abductors to release his son.

"It is now imperative, due to the ugly incident to carry out and seek the support of the government and all relevant authorities to protect our lives and properties, which is one of the aims of the government since we can no longer go to the farm or sleep with our two eyes closed. "This problem is not only limited to Ijagba, these Fulani herders do operate in Imoru, Molege, Arimagija, Ute, and Okeluse. There is no security in that area.

"So we are appealing to the state government that we need; a strong military base, Nigerian Army to be specific so that they can mount one or two checkpoints in the area between Ifon, Imoru, Ijagba, Ute, and Okeluse in order to reduce the attack of these Fulani herders."

The son of the man who was killed during the attack also confirmed the incident and said; they (herders) use rope to tie him and his father and "they said that if our relatives cannot pay the ransom they will kill us.

"They killed my father, while the sum of N400,000 was paid before they released me."

The state Police Public Relation Officer (PPRO), Funmilayo Odunlami-Omisanya who confirmed the incident said; "We are aware of the situation in the community and we are on top of the situation to arrest those behind the attacks. I can assure you that with our investigation we will arrest the perpetrators."

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Stephen Olufemi Oni.

portation in the area, the body will

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