

Terrorists' herdsmen kill five people in Benue community

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Suspected herdsmen terrorists on Friday launched a violent attack on the Tyoshin community of Gwer-West Local Government Area of Benue State leaving at least five people dead.

The attack which took place along Naka-Makurdi road, marked another dark chapter in a long history of violence that has plagued the state.

In a statement by Prof. Patrick Ukase, who doubles as the National President, Fo-

rum of Tyoshin Academics and Prof. John Ajai, a Publicity Secretary of the Forum, said Tyoshin people have endured a relentless cycle of violence, with a staggering total of over 511 lives lost to attacks by armed herders.

He disclosed that between 2011 and 2017, 192 fatalities were recorded, followed by a dramatic increase from 2018 to 2023, where 302 lives were lost. This year (2024) alone, 17 individuals were murdered.

"Once again, the people of Tyoshin were on Friday visited with another bloodbath. Today marks another day of

mourning, another black day etched in the hearts of our community. The relentless wave of violence continues as suspected armed herders have, once more, unleashed terror on our people - this time along the Naka Makurdi road. The lives of five innocent souls, desperately taken to a clinic for treatment, have tragically slipped away, their cries unheard.

"Others lie in agony, fighting for their lives, yet the true number of those attacked remains unknown.

"Since 2011, the toll of this violence has been staggering.

Between 2011 and 2017, 192 sons and daughters of Tyoshin were gruesomely murdered by herders. From 2018 to 2023, the numbers escalated, with 302 more lives lost in the area. This year alone, 17 individuals have been mercilessly hacked down by these herders. These figures do not include those who have disappeared and have not been seen since 2011. In all, we have lost over 511 lives to this relentless onslaught.

"Tyoshin land is bleeding, its cries drowned in the deafening silence of indifference," he said.