

Friday 11 October, 2013 Updated 11:09

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21 Feared Killed in Fresh Attack in Plateau

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Governor Jonah Jang

Seriki Adinoyi

Just when everybody thought peace had return to Plateau State, about 21 persons were again killed in a fresh early morning attack at Kukek community of Bakin Kogi Foron district of Barkin Ladi Local Government Area of the state Thursday.

The gunmen, believed to be Fulani herdsmen, reportedly attacked the community, razing the home of a man identified as Mr. Tsok Gwom, at about 2a.m. killing nine members of the family, and rustling some cattle from the villagers.

The source further said Gwom, his five children and three women were all killed from gunshot wounds on their bodies.

One of the women was identified as Gwom's wife.

The residents of the community said the gunshots alerted the vigilante group of the community, who launched a reprisal on the gunmen and killed 12 of them. Many of the vigilante members also sustained various degree of injuries.

When contacted, the interim Administrator of Barkin Ladi Local Government Area, Hon. Habila Dung, confirmed the attack, saying: "Yes, I received a distress call about the attack, and I have immediately alerted the security, who have not given me a feedback. When I get the detail of the incident, I will let you know."

The state Commissioner for Information, Yiljap Abraham was said the casualty figure was 14 and not 21 as claimed by the source from the community.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) DSP Felicia Anslem, a also confirmed the incident, but said she could not confirm the casualty figure. He said on phone that government was doing everything in collaboration with the security forces to unearth those behind the attack.

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