

5 hacked to death in Benue mysterious attack

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By Peter Duru

MAKURDI—NO fewer than five persons have been reportedly killed in a late night attack on Mbayongo, Nganbeya district of Katsina/Ala Local Government Area of Benue State by unknown armed men.

Vanguard gathered from an eyewitness in the community, who claimed to have lost a former schoolmate in the attack, that the armed men stormed individual homes of their victims and hacked them to death in the presence of their families.

He said though the reason for the coordinated killings was yet to be known, the assailants besieged the homes of their targets with clubs and machetes with which they murdered their victims.

He said: “Katsina/Ala and its environs have witnessed high profile killings, with the people living in fear. But recently, with the coming of the new administration in Katsina/Ala, we had some semblance of peace, until yesterday’s incidents that saw the killings of the five people.

“Unlike before, the attackers did not use guns; maybe to avoid attracting the vigilante or security agencies. They killed the affected persons with clubs and machetes before fleeing.”

When contacted, the Sole Administrator of Katsina/Ala council, Mrs. Vera Akua, who confirmed the killings, said she had informed the authorities of the development.

She said: “The matter has been reported to security agencies and we are relying on them to arrest those behind the killings. We are urging the people to avail the police necessary information that would aide their investigation because the development is quite disturbing.”

Contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer, Assistant Superintendent Moses Yamu, who also confirmed the attack, said the Command had commenced investigations into the matter